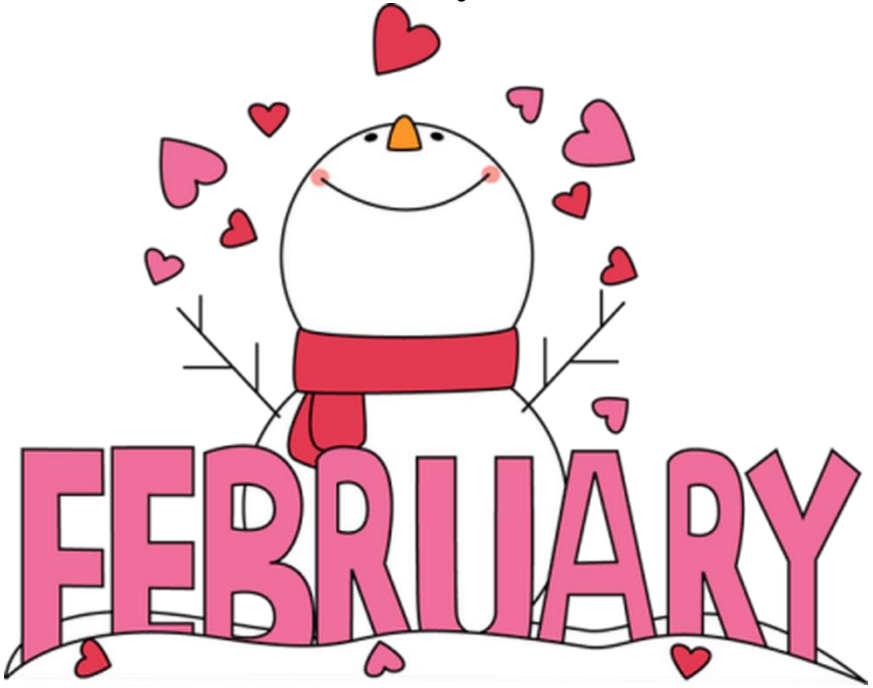


PARISH VISITOR
February 2024



**Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Frederic, Wisconsin**

*Pilgrim Lutheran Church is a family of God,
centered in Christ, inviting all people to journey
with us in faith, hope, and love.”*

*We worship Sunday mornings at 10:30
Find our services online at bplutheran.com*

**Church office Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9am-3pm
Pastor's Office Hours Thursday, 3-6pm**

PILGRIM LUTHERAN VOLUNTEERS February 2024

USHERS Bruce Bengtson

LECTORS

04

11

18

25

COFFEE SERVERS

04 Brandon & McKenzie Dahl

11 PLCW Brunch-Camp Scholarship Fundraiser

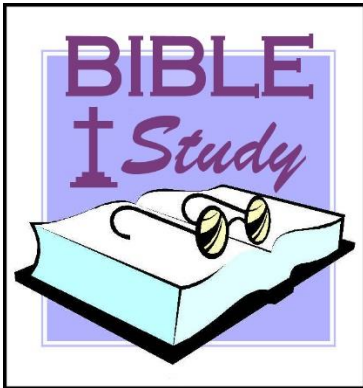
18 Chris Byerly

25 Marlene Dahlberg & Carol Thompson

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Eileen Wikstrom

Jackie Kurkowski



Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study meets **10am** at **Bethany** in **February**. All are welcome to join us for discussion of the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday.

Did you know we have a prayer chain online!? Visit at:

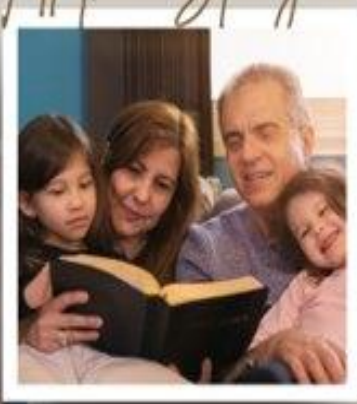
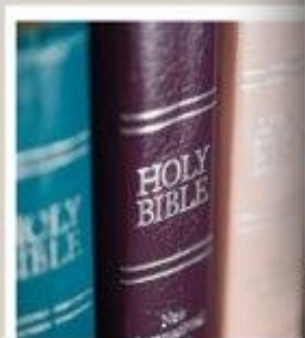
www.bplutheran.com



WALKING TOGETHER

"I Love to Tell the Story"

- + Worship +
- + Workshops +
- + Inspiration +

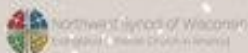


FEBRUARY 17, 2024

9:00 - 4:00

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
RICE LAKE, WI

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 Worship
- 10:00 Workshop 1
- 11:00 Workshop 2
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Workshop 3
- 2:00 Workshop 4
- 3:00 Workshop 5
- 4:00 Blessing & Sending





LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter invite us to remember and experience the mysteries of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

All are invited to join Christ on His journey to Jerusalem, The Table, Calvary, and the New Garden where Christ defeats death and all evil!

Lent Feb 14 - March 24

Transfiguration Sunday, Feb. 11

We see Christ glorified on a mountaintop before Lent and end with the Ascension, May 9, on another! Bury the "Alleluias".

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14

Begins the 40 days of repentance and fasting as we prepare for Easter.

Stop by for Ashes & Brief Prayer:

10am at Bethany and Noon at Pilgrim
7:00pm Worship Service @ Bethany

Every Wednesday in Lent

Noon Prayer at Bethany (10-15 minutes)
6:00pm Soup Supper Service

Feb 21 at Pilgrim

Feb 28 at Bethany

Mar 6 at Pilgrim

Mar 13 at Bethany

Mar 20 at Pilgrim

6:50pm Finish and Clean Up

7:00pm Evening Prayer Service in Sanctuary

7:20-8:00pm Bethany Choir Practice in Loft

Every Sunday in Lent

8:30am Worship at Bethany, fellowship & SS

10:30am Worship at Pilgrim, fellowship

Holy Week, March 24-31

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:30am Worship at Bethany

9:30am Bethany Sunday School & fellowship

10:30am Worship at Pilgrim, brunch to follow

Kids gather 15 min. prior to both services for processional

Monday-Wednesday, March 25-27

12:00pm Noon Prayer at Bethany (10-15 minutes)

No Soup Supper Service or Confirmation on Wednesday.

Easter Baptism/First Communion "Rehearsal" w/ families, time/place TBD

Maundy Thursday, March 28

12:00-12:35pm Tenebrae Service at Bethany

7:00pm Worship Service at Bethany

Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

Good Friday, March 29

12:00pm Noon Solemn Prayer at Bethany

3:00pm Bach's St. John's Passion viewing & prayer
at Pilgrim

7:00pm Worship Service at Pilgrim

Easter Sunday, Feast of the Resurrection!

8:30am Festival Worship at Bethany, brunch to follow

10:30am Festival Worship at Pilgrim

Easter Week, The Celebration Continues!

12:00pm Noon Prayer at Pilgrim (10-15 minutes)
Monday-Friday

Ascension Day, May 9

7:00pm Worship at Bethany

Pentecost Sunday, May 19

*Regular Sunday Worship Times
Wear red!*



**BETHANY, SIREN ~ PILGRIM, FREDERIC
BPLUTHERAN.COM**

Lenten Practices

For nearly two thousand years the 40-day season of Lent has been used by God's people to remember the events of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Christians throughout the ages have chosen to take on disciplines to keep them centered on God all the way to Easter. We encourage you to take on these daily spiritual practices as well, which can help protect from distraction and increase our ability to hear from God. May we all be transformed as we participate in these exercises of grace.

Monday: Make no purchases

Most of us can buy things whenever we need them. Take a day to fast purchases. Examples: Make your lunch instead of buying it. Plan to fill your tank of gas on another day. Avoid the vending machine. As you do, pray for those who go without.

Tuesday: Make a personal contact

Our lives can be so busy. Many of us are in such a rush that we don't have time for relationships. Examples: Write and send a hand-written note. Make a phone call to an old friend. Have people over for a meal. As you do, encourage them in the Lord or thank them for their influence in your life.

Wednesday: Fast noise

For many of us, we are constantly barraged with noise from our T.V. radio, or iPod. Our lives are also bombarded with distractions through social media and advertisement. Embrace silence so that God's voice may be loud in your life.

Examples: Turn off your car radio. Take a break from social media. Keep the television off today. As you do, sing a worship song, or speak out your prayers, and listen for God's still small voice.

Thursday: Add an extra hour of sleep

We are designed to need sleep. Rest is one of the greatest gifts God gives us. Some of us are exhausted from burning the candle at both ends. Be thankful for God's goodness by going to bed an hour early. If you can't sleep, lie in bed and read the scriptures or pray for the needs of others.

Friday: Fast a food of your choice

It is easy to become addicted to sweets, caffeine, and constant eating. Recognize your dependence on God, and be thankful for the things you enjoy by choosing to fast a meal or a food of choice. As you do, focus on your dependence on God for your most basic needs.

Saturday: Add an hour of physical activity

When we take care of our bodies we take care of the temple of the Holy Spirit. Examples: Go for a walk. Visit the Family Life Center. Swim a few laps at the YMCA. As you do, pray for those who are suffering from disease or sickness, and thank God for the gift of life and the health you have.

Sunday: Celebrate in worship! Participate with the community at the 8:30 or 10:30 worship service.



CALLING THE CALLED!
We hope to have 1st Communion on Maundy Thursday and Baptism on Easter Sunday!
If interested, please contact Pastor Emily!

**HOLY COMMUNION
 (FIRST COMMUNION)**



**HOLY
 WEEK**



HOLY BAPTISM



Interested in Becoming a Mentor?

Informational Meeting

polkkinship.org



Join us:

**THURSDAY,
 FEBRUARY 1**

Joy Lutheran

501 State Road 35
 Centuria, WI 54824
 5:30 - 6:30 pm

HEAR FROM
 CURRENT MENTORS
 AND LEARN MORE
 ABOUT KINSHIP

RSVPs welcomed:

715-405-3900 or on Facebook

Kinship
 OF POLK COUNTY



Do you know any adults who wish to be baptized?

Please reach out to Pastor Emily



The Time we've all been waiting so patiently for! Our new directories are in & look Amazing! Big Thanks to our Directory Committee for all their hard work & dedication to this project- Rhoda Jensen, Carol Thompson, and Shannon Ayd

Last Call for ELCA Youth Gathering!



Final letters were sent out to students.

COME JOIN US

FREE SOUP

TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 6 - from 4-6



Frederic Community Center

109 Elm Street W

(Small yellow building behind Frederic Grocery; used to be Senior Center)

ALL ARE WELCOME

**Sponsored by Pilgrim Lutheran Church of
Frederic**

**Carol Thompson 715-371-0580 or
Karen Swanberg 715-491-2700**



**Confirmation Class will be held at
Bethany for the month of February-
Hope to see you all there!
6:30-8pm**



We have the new Acolyte Sign-up ready for those willing to help out. Please feel free to use the sign up yourself or contact Faith in the Pilgrim office & she can add your child to the list. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45A8A62DAAFD52-bethanypilgrim#/>



Did You Know!?

All Thrivent members can receive up to \$250 per year for a church construction project.

Thrivent Action Teams are a great way to give back to your community. They are projects that you and your friends, family or neighbors can lead to support your community. [You can apply for a Thrivent Action Team and get up to \\$250 in seed money to help you get started.](#) Once your application is approved, Thrivent will send you a package of customized resources and digital tools to kick-start your project. [Your kit may include thank you cards, name tags, stickers, T-shirts, and a Community Impact Card with up to \\$250 in seed money. You can use the Community Impact Card solely for your project, and according to the Terms & Conditions.](#)

To get started, simply gather a team of friends, family or neighbors to put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. [Thrivent Action Teams can help you make a positive impact in your community. Once you and your team have completed your project, you can submit a report to Thrivent about your project's positive impact so they can celebrate your success](#)

**PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES - January 8, 2024
(Unapproved)**

Present: Bryn Anderson, Bruce Bengtson, Chris Byerly, Kerrie Erickson, Rhoda Jensen, Carol Thompson and Pastor Emily.

Call Meeting to Order: President Rhoda at 6 pm declared a quorum.

Opening Devotions: Pastor Emily led-"Where did you see God lately?" Round table discussion.

Approval of Agenda: Consensus to approve the agenda as presented

Public Comment: None

Secretary's Report: **M/C (Chris/Bruce)** to approve 11-20-23 meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Checking

General \$25,988.33

Memorial \$ 4,823.96

(CD)

Youth Gathering \$ 912.51

TOTAL \$31,724.80

Savings

Memorial \$ 3,998.66

Money Market \$10,952.18

TOTAL \$14,950.84

FUND TOTALS \$46,675.64

Endowment Fund Balance - \$12,724.03 (12-15-23)

M/C (Bruce/Chris) to accept treasurers report.

PASTOR'S REPORT - In November Pastor Emily volunteered to be the Chaplin for Burnett County but is currently re-evaluating the call. Her full report is on file in the secretary's book. **M/C (Kerrie/Bruce)** to accept report.

OLD BUSINESS - Signage report by Bruce - The sign is ordered and will arrive soon, and arrangements have been made with the Village as to where to put the sign.

NEW BUSINESS - the 2024 PLC Mission Proposal was presented and gone over. **M/C (Chris/Bruce)** to approve the Mission Proposal with the addition of \$1,000 to Christian Education department.

M/C (Chris/Kerrie) to approve Pastor's Compensation Package.

Nominating Committee Report - Council went over this report.

Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 28, after worship. Discussion

Storage Shed Clean Out - after discussion, decision made to do this in May at the same time as church clean up

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be on Sunday, January 28, after worship and the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted --- Carol Thompson



Bethany & Pilgrim
LUTHERAN PARISH

Siren & Frederic, WI
E: bethanypilgrimparish@gmail.com
Rev'd Emily K. Stelling
P: 320-438-5807

Pastor Message February 2024

Dear Parish,

Calendars. Time. These two things govern our lives. As Steve Jobs said, "My favorite things in life don't cost any money. It's really clear that the most precious resource we all have is time." Who wouldn't follow this insanely rich, genius businessman, highly successful founder of Apple, Inc.? Our Lord and Savior teaches us in Matthew's gospel "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Do we follow a human-god like Steve Jobs or Jesus, the God-man, who tells us that to be rich you must be poor?

We have a goofy year set before us. The confusion of having Christmas Eve on a Sunday to this being a leap-year and, most pressing, is Easter's early arrival. Easter is always the Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox (meaning March 22nd is the earliest possible date for Easter Sunday). Easter Sunday this year is March 31st. As we prepare our schedules, routines, and future plans I encourage us to hold central our life together in Christ. Make your faith formation and church a priority.

A few notes:

- **Please see the Lent schedule and spread the news!**
- **If you or someone you know would like to talk about Baptism or First Communion, please let them connect with me. Traditionally we aim to have First Communion on Maundy Thursday and Baptism on Easter Sunday.**

- Discussion regarding membership/discipleship is under way. I would like to offer more faith formation opportunities in the parish and promote the fact that we are ALL life-long learners.
- Both churches had their Worship Leader's Roundup Meeting last month. Updates will be shared. If you or someone you know is looking to participate as an usher, counter, singer, acolyte, altar guild, etc. please connect then with me!

In Christ,

Pastor Emily



HE FIRST
LOVED US

A red graphic design featuring a heart symbol on the left. To the right of the heart, the words "HE FIRST" are written in a bold, red, stylized font. Below "HE FIRST", the words "LOVED US" are written in the same red, stylized font, with the "L" and "O" being significantly larger than the other letters.



FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE



Bethany Lutheran
Church

- *Craft * Dinner
- * Professional Photo
- *Professional DJ

Share a fun-filled evening
with your father or father
figure or daughter.

Saturday February 10, 2024
At Bethany Lutheran, Siren

All are welcome
\$10 per father
Open to all ages

Call or text Sarah Brewster
to RSVP 715-791-0602
or Bethany Office
715-349-5280

FAITH FORMATION

Wherever you are on your faith journey,
you're never too old to take part in
God's gifts of Word & sacraments!

FAITH FORMATION IS LIFE-LONG

Contact
Pr. Emily!

WORD

- Study (bible, catechism, history)
- Membership
- Confession
- Mentorship
- Death Planning

SACRAMENT

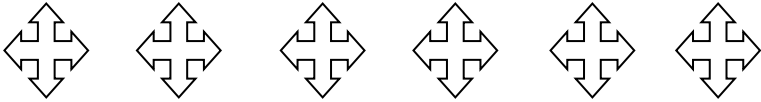
HOLY COMMUNION
(FIRST COMMUNION)

HOLY BAPTISM





We are updating our “volunteer lists” for 2024 – if you are willing to help with any church activities- (Usher, lector, Altar Guild, or coffeetime serving) please contact a member of Council or Faith in the office & we will get you added. We appreciate giving your time to your church family!





Executive Summary, Luther Point Bible Camp 2023

2023 saw the 74th year we help Summer Camp at Luther Point Bible Camp. Our theme was “Walking with Jesus” and the campers explored some of the physical areas Jesus walked in his ministry along with what it means to walk with Jesus in our every-day lives! We saw our summer camper numbers increase for the first time in a couple of years as well! 2023 also marked the second year we held the “Camp Connect” program where we held an on-site day camp program at Luther Point.

We were also blessed to work with Camp Breakaway again this year for the second time. Breakaway brings up to Luther Point over 80 young people who are or have been affected by cancer and provides a safe and fun place for them to just be kids! We are looking forward to many more years of partnership with Camp Breakaway.

We also held our annual winter camps for students in grades 6-12 in February. These youth come to us from some local churches and spend a weekend engaging in great discussion, playing games, and growing together!

Retreats

We saw a large increase in our Retreat reservations in 2023 with bookings up almost 25% from the previous year. Our retreat ministry continues to be a valuable resource for Luther Point Bible Camp as we are able to provide a sanctuary set aside for people to relax, renew and experience God.

Facilities

Winter was tough on Luther Point Bible Camp. With the windstorms and the excessive (to put it lightly) snow we got we did have several of our buildings sustain damage. Mostly to the siding and the roofs. We worked with the insurance company along with contractors and have made the necessary repairs.

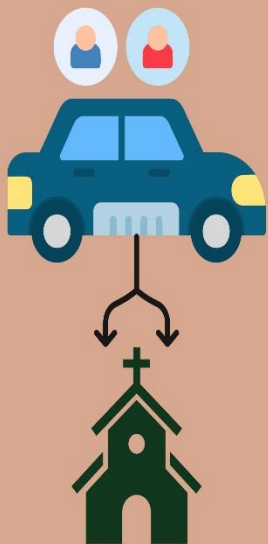
We continue to make updates where we can around Luther Point. The Board of Directors has put an emphasis on updating our summer camper cabins. We are in the process of completely redoing Epiphany, to bring heat and air conditioning in along with finished walls, updated windows, siding and making it accessible for all people.

Financial

Luther Point continues to strive to be the very best stewards of the resources given to us. We continue to rely on the generosity of our donors and congregations to allow us to provide Summer Camp at a much reduced cost for all. Thank you to everyone who helps make this a reality!

Thank You!

Thank you for being a part of this ministry, partnering with us and walking with us as we continue to share the good news of God to people from across Wisconsin, Minnesota and the nation! God’s Peace,
Sam Campeau Executive Director



CHURCH
RIDESHARE

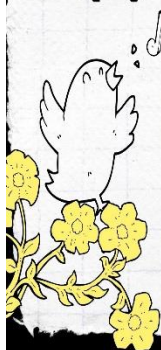
Looking for Drivers *and* Riders

PLEASE EMAIL PR. EMILY
IF INTERESTED

Offering people rides
to Sunday worship



PARISH PRAISE BAND



Leads worship music every
2nd Sunday of the month at
both Bethany and Pilgrim!



PLCW NEWS...(Pilgrim Lutheran Church Women) I bring you greetings from the women of the church; "Ordinary Women Serving an Extraordinary God."

OPENING PRAYER - Gracious God, you have been with us from before the dawn of time and will be in the stillness of it. Be with us now, gracing us with your presence, opening our hearts, minds, and imaginations to welcome you into the Bible Study time together. In Jesus' name. Amen (taken from the Gather Magazine)

Quilters - For the month of February and part of March, the quilters will meet. Each week call Jan Berg, 715-327-8786, for day and time. Karen is on vacation learning "new quilting techniques" in Texas!!!

FEB 6, - Tues 4-6 - FREE SOUP at Frederic Senior Center/Community Center. This is a monthly "Mission Outreach Program" that PLCW and the church is sponsoring with your help. The public is invited, and we encourage Pilgrim people to come and provide fellowship for this event. Get to know your neighbor! **We are looking for volunteers to make soup (for 25), 5 dozen cookies or bars and bread for this event as we continue to offer it the first Tuesday of each month.**



FEB 21 - Wed 1 pm - Faith Circle Bible Study will meet at Mary Lou Daeffler's house and Chris Byerly is the leader. From the Gather Magazine - Winter/Spring 2024: Creatures: Our siblings in praise and trust. Jesus invites us to consider the birds, but we'll get to know biblical critters beyond the sparrows.

We'll look at biblical animals (some adorable, some terrifying) from ravens and lions to a big fish, paired creatures on the ark, and that sneaky serpent in Eden. Stories of human and animal interactions in Scripture help to reorient our relationships with the non-human world, while pulling us into deeper trust in God.



Enjoy each and every day and every blessed moment you have!

Carol Thompson...jcthompson1943@gmail.com or
715-371-0580(cell)



Confirmation Mentors: be sure to pick up your Mentor Folder from the church office if you do not already have one.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

507 Wisconsin Avenue

PO Box 127

Frederic, WI 54837

Phone: 715-327-8012

Email: pilgrimlutheranfrederic@gmail.com

bplutheran.com

On Facebook at Pilgrim Church

Check us out and "Like" us!

The Parish Visitor

FEBRUARY 2024