

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
703 BROADWAY
EMMETSBURG, IA 50536
Change Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
EMMETSBURG, IOWA 50536
PERMIT #2

Pastor F. Peter Morlock
Secretary: Diane Clasing-Steger
Financial Secretary: Michael Jacobson
Youth Director: Kristin Rienhardt
Bethany organist: Tim Nielsen, Temp
Lost Island organist: Tim Nielsen

FEBRUARY 2023



CONNECTIONS

A Monthly Newsletter Linking the Ministries of Bethany Lutheran and Lost Island Lutheran Churches



As I write this, it is still January and there is a lot of snow and ice outside the office window. My thoughts turn toward Spring and warmer days, but we're not there yet. We still have a ways to go. Sometimes it seems like winter drags on forever, but we are moving on to warmer weather and brighter days ahead. We are traveling in the church year too, toward the Promises of Easter, but before we get there we have to travel through the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on the 22nd of this month, marking the beginning of the Season. We will be marked with the Cross of Christ, as we were at Baptism, and travel the road of repentance and forgiveness before we reach the glory of Easter. This year, our theme will be the Book of Jonah. I invite you to join us in that journey as we look deeper into Jonah - going beyond his being swallowed by a fish - to see what else God has to say to us in the account of this reluctant prophet.

I would also like to invite you to consider becoming a mentor to one of our confirmation students during the Season of Lent. The students will not have classes but they will be required to attend one of the two Wednesday night worship services, and meet with their mentor to work through some material which I will provide. It is not a hard thing and many of the past mentors tell me they enjoyed the process. If you are interested in helping with this please let me know.

Pastor Peter

PS.. We have received information for the upcoming Synod Assembly on April 21st thru the 23rd. It will be held at the LeMars Convention Center, LeMars IA. We are needing 2 delegates from Bethany. Please contact myself or the Church Office if you are interested in attending. Thank You!

label



Bethany Lutheran Church: bethanylutheranemmettsburg.com Fb: Bethany/Lostislandparish

Lost Island Lutheran Church www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com

Office Email: offsecr@gmail.com

Financial Email: bethanyfinance20@gmail.com

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9 AM -2pm

Office phone: 712-852-4450



GET INVOLVED.

Help with youth group, Sunday school, altar guild, WELCA, be a prayer warrior, be on a board, help out around the church in some way shape or form.

Circle Schedules

***Tabitha Circle:** February ? at 6:50 pm at Alaire's

***Sarah Circle:** February 7th at 6:30 pm at Carla Firkin's home

***Mary Martha Circle:** Resume meeting in March 2023

Morning Quilting
Mondays- 9 AM weekly

Lost Island Quilting
February 4--9:00AM

Afternoon Quilters
Monday's 3 PM weekly

Adult Bible Study
TBD

Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays @ Noon

**Note: Communion will be the 1st/3rd Sunday of each month during services.
All services will be posted on our YouTube channel.*

Lost Island
Sundays at
8:45am



Bethany
Sundays at
10:30am



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



PLEASE CONSIDER USING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS IN HELPING AT BETHANY.

- USHER**
- TECH BOOTH**
- ALTAR GUILD**
- MAILINGS**
- READER**
- ASSIST IN MOWING, LANDSCAPING, MAINTENANCE**
- SYNOD DELEGATE**
- JOIN A QUILTING GROUP**
- JOIN A BOARD/COMMITTEE**
- GREETER**
- HELP WITH YOUTH (SUNDAY SCHOOL AND/OR YOUTH GROUP)**
- COMMUNION ASSISTANT**
- HELP WITH SPECIAL MEALS**

GOD COMMANDS US TO BE STEWARDS OVER EVERYTHING HE BLESSES US WITH. EVERYTHING. THAT MEANS OUR TIME, TALENTS, TREASURE, RELATIONSHIPS, JOBS AND, YES, STUFF. IT'S ALL GOD'S, AND HE TRUSTS US WITH IT.

HOW CAN WE
PRAY
FOR YOU?

Prayer is such an important piece in the life of a Christian. Not only do we pray to God individually but as a body of Christ, we pray for our neighbors, the world, and we trust that God will do His will in those prayers. Need prayer? Want to intentionally pray for others? Let us know!

JANUARY 2023 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Attendance average: 61

MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS:

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE (7,604.22)
INCOME	
Offerings	9,235.20
Miscellaneous Income Lost Island	0.00
Total Income	9,235.20
EXPENSES	
Personnel Expenses	8,456.32
Program Expenses	245.33
Office Expenses	940.19
Property Expenses	3,653.89
Western IA Synod Other Donations	743.28 0.00
Damascus Road	0.00
NO ELCA Donations	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	14,039.01
Income Less Expenses	(4,803.81)
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	(12,408.03)

If you have any questions concerning the finances of the church please feel free to call me.
Thanks! Michael (These figures are current up to January 25th)



Bethany would like to encourage online monetary offerings. The local Emmetsburg banks each provide a FREE online bill pay service which can arrange recurring weekly or monthly payments. If you need more information, contact your local Emmetsburg bank at your earliest convenience.

If you have any financial questions, please email Michael at bethanyfinance20@gmail.com and he can answer any questions.

COUNCIL MEMBERS :

Do you have questions? Need assistance? Contact your council members and they will get you connected with the right people!

BETHANY

Joe Neary, President 712-260-8871
 Mark Evans, Vice President 712-260-5651
 Angie Hetrick, Treasurer 712-298-0331
 Diane Clasing-Steger, Secretary 712-298-1003
 Dianne Hough 712-852-2169
 Chuck Duhn 712-298-1027
 Barb Haack 712-260-3408
 Elaine Sidles 712-298-2559

LOST ISLAND

Troy Leininger – President
 Tim Nielsen - Treasurer
 Kyle Norris – Secretary
 Craig Thu & Steve Pitt – Trustees
 Alan Oppedal & Charles Henningsen – Deacons

Lakeside Senior Care and Grace Estates are seeking donations to help with resident room improvements and projects at both Lakeside Senior Care and their Assisted Living Facility—Grace Estates! We have included a form in this Newsletter that we received from them that can be filled out and mailed back to them along with your donation.

Bethany had their Annual Meeting on January 22nd. Thirty-six members were in attendance at the beginning of the meeting. There was great discussion and questions were answered. Those elected to a three year term were Joe Neary, Mark Evans and Diane Clasing-Steger. Those nominated to the Nominating Committee for next year were Joe Neary, Mark Evans, Diane Clasing-Steger, Linda Janssen, Joel Saxton and Amy Martini. Michael Jacobson went over the new budget for the church. There were 31 votes cast in favor of the new budget (\$205,333). We hope that with God's guidance, we are able to see this next Church Year through without too many ups and downs.



"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you."
 Deuteronomy 16:17

Make every gift count. Big or small.
Ways to Give
 By Mail In Person Online



Questions on Online Giving? Ask Kristin

LOST ISLAND NEWS



There are still Lost Island 150th Cookbooks for sale. Please check with the office or Karyn for more details.



Quilting will take place at Lost Island Lutheran Church on February 4th.
 All are welcome to come join us.

Synod Assembly– Delegates needed.
 April 21st & 22nd
 Please let the office know if you are interested.

From the Worship Board...
 Both churches will begin serving Communion twice a month beginning in February, on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.



JOIN US FOR
ASH WEDNESDAY
2.22.23
 6PM- LOST ISLAND
 7:30PM- BETHANY

Weekly Devotional

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16)

The hymns of the Christian church not only serve us well in our worship and in our teaching but, they can also offer striking spiritual insight, comfort and counsel. Each week reflect on what words reminds you of God's truth, what words make you stumble, what words make you praise God?

WEEK OF FEB 5 #63 TFF

"We Are Marching In the Light"

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God

WEEK OF FEB 19 #518 LBW

"Beautiful Savior"

Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

WEEK OF FEB 12 504 LBW

"O God, My Faithful God"

O God, my faithful God,
true fountain ever flowing,
without whom nothing is,
all perfect gifts bestowing:
give me a healthy frame,
and may I have within
a conscience free from blame,
a soul unstained by sin.

WEEK OF FEB 26 #229 LBW

"A Mighty Fortress is our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal

"This Little Light Of Mine" The Story Behind the Song....

A classic children's hymn! This beloved hymn was written by Harry Dixon Loes in the early 20th century. Its lyrics are simple for kids to easily remember and recite, with "light of mine" having a powerful meaning of the love and truth of Jesus Christ. This hymn is a wonderful way to introduce and teach young ones about faith and confidence in Jesus!

ORGANIST Tim Nielsen

ALTAR GUILD—FEBRUARY: KARI SORENSON, KAREN THU, COURTNEY COOK

READERS

Feb 5 Troy Leininger
Feb 12 Karyn Leininger
Feb 19 Charles Henningsen
Feb 22 Jeff Geiger
Feb 26 Sue Geiger

ACOLYTES

Feb 5 Lily Rohan
Feb 12 Hannah Geiger
Feb 19 Bethany Geiger
Feb 22 Zac Sorenson
Feb 26 Lily Rohan

ORGANIST/PIANIST Tim Nielsen/Greta Rouse/Holly Sidles/Laura Gustafson

ALTAR GUILD FOR FEBRUARY: DIANNE HOUGH

LECTORS:

Feb 5 Scout Sunday
Feb 12 Angie Hetrick
Feb 19 Laure Miller
Feb 26 Joe Neary

MUSICIAN:

5th Tim Nielsen
12th Greta Rouse
19th Tim Nielsen
22nd Tim Nielsen
26th Holly Sidles

USHERS:

5th Lonnie Naig, Chuck Duhn (Comm)
12th Mark Evans
19th Bob Steger, Joe Neary (Comm)
22nd Terry Rouse Michael Jacobson (Comm)
26th Kyle Hagen

ACOLYTES:

Feb 5 Scout Sunday
Feb 12 Harlee Will
Feb 19 Liza Saxton
Feb 26 Liam Hill

GREETERS

Feb 5 Scout Sunday
Feb 12 Joe & Jennifer Boevers
Feb 19 Becky & Steve Finer
Feb 26 Glenyce & Willard Schmeling

COMMUNION SERVERS

FEB 5 Joe, Jen, Jameson & Ryerson Boevers
FEB 19 Diane Clasing-Steger, Kristin Rienhardt, Josey Saxton, Kathy Mehan
FEB 22 Mark, Darca, Ben & Nick Saxton

Volunteers - Please contact the Office at (712) 852-4450 if you need to switch, change dates, or if you won't be here prior to the date you are scheduled. Thank You!

Bethany Funeral Servers - Group B

Joe & Terry Neary, Elaine Nauss, John & Stephanie Larson-Chairpersons

Phil Andreasen
Laure Miller
Bob & Sheryl Mortenson, Jr.
Cordell & Donna Poldberg
Kristin Rienhardt
Cory & Stacie Fjetland
Dawn Daniels
Joyce & John Froisland

Darlene Naig
Dan & Michelle Jackson
Randy & Deb Jones
Beverly Norland
Jason & Nicole Sanders
Doug & Sherri Ort
Tom & Karen Hagen
Jason & Laura Reinders

Greg & Ann Sween
Greg & Rachel Haack
Betty Edwards
Aaron & Jackie Leuer
Ina Crocoll
Tonya Peterson
Bob & Connie Schubert
Dale & LuAnn Opheim

VOLUNTEERS-
LOST ISLAND

VOLUNTEERS-
BETHANY

BETHANY
FUNERAL SERVERS

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Paul & Teresa Saxton**, for **Kim's Seminary Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Carla Firkins** for the **Youth Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Gene & Della Twait** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Cole & Jeanette McCormick** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Randy & Dianne Hough** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Bill & Marcie Frevert** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Jim Kacmarynski** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Jeff & Athlyn Black** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Jane Heykes** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of Janis Campbell given by **Laure Miller** for the **Organ Fund**.
In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by **David & Elaine Sidles** for the **Green Space**.
In Memory of **John Miller** given by **David & Elaine Sidles** for the **Green Space**.
In Memory of **Dave Nixon** given by **David & Elaine Sidles** for the **Green Space**.

THANK YOU

- * Thank you to all who have been involved in worship on Sundays to bring us the Good News of God!
- Thank you to all that have continued to give your monetary donations!
- Thank you to all that have given to the parsonage flooring project.
- Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Sunday School's Bible Fund.
- Thank you to everyone that took part in the Annual Meetings at both churches. The goodies were delicious!
- Thank you to Funeral Circle A for helping with the Jean Paulson Funeral on the 27th of January. The family appreciates everything that was done.
- Thank you to Kristin for managing the Church Service on January 29th so that Pastor could stay for the Lost Island Annual Meeting. It was fun having a "Camp Sunday."

We remember those in special need of God's love and care including: Vicky Omundson, Wilma Nielsen, Dave Smith, Lanny Hansen, Lon Twait, Bridget Johnson, Don Crocoll, Robert Mortenson, Jr., Phyllis Schroeder, Garwin Anderson, and those we name in our hearts.



Prayers for the family and friends of Jean Paulsen, Grandmother of Aaron Leuer who's funeral was held here at Bethany on the 27th of January

Please keep Thomas Crocoll and Logan Murray, who are in the military, in your prayers.

*Our missionary: Courtney Davis, who lives in Papua New Guinea. *Our companion synods: The Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Yakobi Parish companion with Lost Island and the Evangelical Lutheran Church Laz-Paz Parish in Chile, companion with Bethany.

PRAYERS

AED Training— February 7th at 7pm led by Sheryl Darling.
For anyone that is interested in knowing how to operate the AED.
Call office if you are interested in joining the training.



The Worship Board for both Churches have decided to order the "Cranberry" colored Hymnal—"Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal" We are asking those that would like to help with the cost of purchasing these books, to fill out the paper we have included in this Newsletter and return it to your church with \$25 per hymnal. We will then make a label to be placed inside the hymnal with your name and who you have made the donation for.

Sinnamon Sunday

**FEBRUARY 19TH
AFTER WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**All donations will go towards Deferred Maintenance
(Tuck Pointing, Sidewalks, Etc.)**

SPONSORED BY MARIT VELTRI'S THRIVENT ACTION TEAM



YOUTH NEWS

Hello Brothers and Sisters,



When February comes, we often times are thinking VALENTINES DAY! Even though this is true, I can't help but think of the greatest valentine we have. JESUS!

"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." -John 3:16

Check out the kids bulletin board upstairs. Who/What do you love? Is it Jesus? Is it something else?

February 15th– Bethany Sponsored Movie @ 3pm **High School and Middle School Youth– those that are involved, we will start Mime Practice right after the 7pm service on March 1st.**

February 19th–Okoboji Outreach Night, 5-8pm, 6th-12th graders, Hoonting **Starting April 22nd– Connect will not meet on a regular basis due to Lenten services and meals.**

February 22nd– Ash Wednesday, No CONEECT or LIFE groups, Church Services at 6pm (LI) and 7:30pm (Bethany).

amazon CHECKOUT THE YOUTH PROGRAMS WISH LIST!
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3J3JDDKFF4QHU?ref_=wl_share

Sunday School on Sundays at 9:30am.



How many Bibles can we get?



NOISY OFFERING

February–
Wings of Refuge

A Christ-centered organization providing opportunities to survivors of sex trafficking

**WILLING TO HELP?
SUPPORT, DRIVE,
DONATE, TEACH?**

CONTACT KRISTIN

Kristin Rienhardt



Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470

MORE MISSION WORK

Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a volunteer-based fair trade organization that works to reduce poverty in Guatemala through collaborative partnerships with Guatemalans. We offer Guatemalan crafts including handmade beaded jewelry, handwoven scarves, baskets from all natural materials and much, much, more. Shop online at www.sharingthedream.org, visit one of the stores in Vermillion, Sioux Falls or at Lost Island Lutheran Church. If you are interested in learning more contact Karyn Leininger.



Please remember and prayerfully consider including Courtney in your prayers and financial support. Checks should be made to "Bethany Lutheran Church" with a memo "For the ministry of Courtney Davis, Acct #305075"



Thank you for your prayers for my Wycliffe ministry in Papua New Guinea! Courtney's blog at: cdchronicles.wordpress.com Email address: co.davis@sil.org.pg

A BIBLE
for every believer

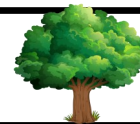
Every \$6 we will stack a Bible

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

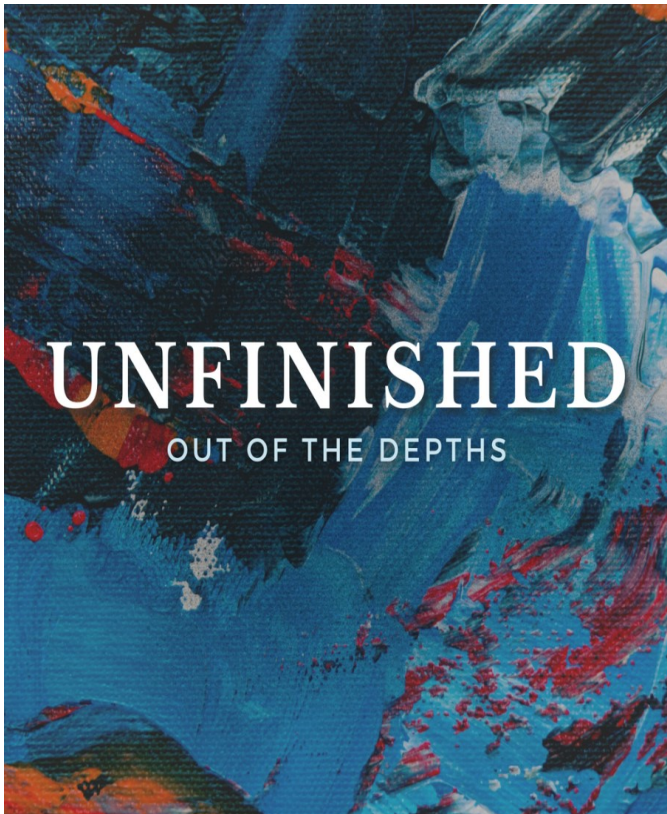
100 Bibles = \$600

COLLECTING ITEMS THROUGHOUT LENT FOR MISSIONS

Mission Kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief where they will be delivered all around the world to those in need of them.
MORE INFORMATION TO COME NEXT MONTH



Regarding the Green Space—the Green Space Committee has put together some guidelines in regards to the esthetics of the design and what can be incorporated into it.
Please make sure to stop in the Church Office and review this information.



UNFINISHED

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

Lenten Series

Moving through the book of Jonah.
Bring your BIBLES and follow along.

- ASH WEDNESDAY - God Calls and Persists
- LENT WEEK ONE - Intercepted & Redirected
- LENT WEEK TWO - God in the Depth of Chaos
- LENT WEEK THREE - Obedience and Preservation
- LENT WEEK FOUR - Faithful and Unfinished
- LENT WEEK FIVE - Jesus, the new Jonah

Ash Wednesday Service- 2.22.23
6pm-Lost Island, 7:30pm Bethany

Lent Services starting 3.1.23 on Wednesdays
Services at 5pm & 7pm, with meal in between

Lenten Meals

IN BETWEEN 5-7PM SERVICES
(AROUND 5:45PM)

MEALS SPONSORED BY THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

DATE	WHO IS SERVING	FREE WILL OFFERING
March 1st	WOMEN CIRCLES	LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS
		Main Dish-Assorted Cold Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts
March 8th	CONFIRMATION YOUTH	CONFIRMATION CAMP
		Main Dish-HOT Turkey Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts
March 15th	COUNCIL	DEFERRED MAINTENANCE
		Main Dish-Maidrite Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts
March 22nd	YOUTH	YOUTH MISSIONS
		Main Dish-Pork Loin Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts
March 29th	YOUTH	SUNDAY SCHOOL BIBLE PROJECT
		Main Dish-HOT Ham & Cheese Sandwiches, Sides, Desserts

CHURCH SPONSORED MOVIE

FEBRUARY 15TH

ALL AGES WELCOME
COMMUNITY INVITED



3:00 PM

ADMISSION TICKETS- COVERED BY CHURCH
CONCESSIONS ARE OPEN- NOT INCLUDED IN ADMISSION



BETHANY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

BETHANY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
MARVIN E SIMONSEN SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS ARE OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE.
BOTH ARE DUE APRIL 15TH!

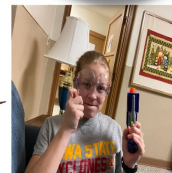
WEDNESDAYS
STARTING SEPT 14TH



OKOBOJI outreach night



ALL ARE WELCOME



FEBRUARY 19
6TH-12TH GRADERS
\$5 (church will pay)
5-8PM

RSVP
R.S.V.P. at
www.okoboji.org/outreach
by Feb 16 at 4pm

SACK

2ND-4TH GRADERS
1:30-3PM OR 3:30-5PM

CONNECT

5TH-7TH GRADERS
6:30-7:30PM

LIFE

8TH-12TH GRADERS
7:30-9PM

Want to come an hour early to do a service project at camp?
Let us know.

February 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Noon Men's Bible Study 1:30-3 PM SACK (2nd-4th) 6-7:30pm Confirmation/Connect (5th-7th) 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE (8th-12th)			4 <i>Quilting at 9 am Lost Island</i>
5 <i>COMMUNION SUNDAY</i> 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	6 9:00 AM Morning Quilting 3:00 PM Afternoon Quilting	7 7 pm-Sarah Circle at Carla Firkins' Home 7 pm- AED training At Bethany	8 Noon Men's Bible Study 3:30-5 PM SACK (2nd-4th) 5:30 PM Youth Board Meets 6-7:30pm Confirmation/Connect (5th-7th) 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE (8th-12th)			
12 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	13 9:00 AM Morning Quilting 3:00 PM Afternoon Quilting	14 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	15 Noon Men's Bible Study 1:30-3 PM SACK (2nd-4th) 3PM- Bethany Sponsored Movie 6-7:30pm Confirmation/Connect (5th-7th) 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE (8th-12th)			
19 <i>COMMUNION SUNDAY</i> <i>SINNAMON SUNDAY @ BETHANY</i> 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship Soup & Cinnamon Rolls after church 5PM- Okoboji Outreach Night	20 9:00 AM Morning Quilting 3:00 PM Afternoon Quilting <i>All items due for March Newsletter</i>	21	22 <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> <i>*Put March Newsletter Together at 9:30 am*</i> Noon Men's Bible Study 3:30-5 PM SACK (2nd-4th) NO Connect or LIFE group 6:00 PM Services at Lost Island Communion at Both Churches 7:30 PM Services at Bethany	23 <i>Diane will be gone so the Church Office will be closed today.</i>		
26 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	27 9:00 AM Morning Quilting 3:00 PM Afternoon Quilting	28 <i>WIC Clinic</i> 9:30—3:30 pm 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:50 Tabitha Circle Meets				