



*Mission Statement
Sharing God's Love Wherever
We May Be*

**A Member Congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America**

BETHESDA NEWS is a monthly publication of
Bethesda Lutheran Church, Jewell, IA

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Upcoming Dates

Nov. 2: **All Saints Day**
Oct. 15 through November 20:
“**Love the Lord. Love the
Lord’s Cupboard**” challenge
(see calendar page)
November Adult Ed. Series
(see page 7)
November 23: **CHRIST THE
KING SUNDAY**
Order form for **poinsettia** on
last page

Calendar page includes recent
“Thank you(s)” received.

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What is Christ the King Sunday?

Beloved siblings in Christ of Bethesda,

Christ the King Sunday is an important day for Lutherans. It occurs on the last Sunday before Advent begins, which means it's the final Sunday of the church year. Because of the content discussed during bible and Brew in November, it seemed an appropriate opportunity to discuss this feast day. On this day, we remember and celebrate Jesus as the King who rules over everything, both earth and heaven. But this isn't about a king with a crown and throne like in stories. Instead, it's about Jesus as a loving and caring leader who brings peace and fairness to the world.

This special Sunday started in the early 1900s when Roman Catholic Pope Pius XI created it in 1925. He wanted to remind people that Jesus is the true ruler, even when the world seems full of other powers and leaders. Lutherans found this idea meaningful and also adapted it as the final Sunday of our Liturgical Calendar. The first Sunday of the Liturgical Calendar begins with Advent and follows the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection through seasons like Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

CELEBRATING CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY HELPS LUTHERANS REMEMBER THAT JESUS' KINGDOM IS DIFFERENT FROM ANY GOVERNMENT OR COUNTRY. IT GIVES HOPE THAT GOD'S LOVE AND JUSTICE WILL WIN IN THE END. THIS DAY ENCOURAGES US TO LIVE IN A WAY THAT SHOWS JESUS' KINDNESS TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD AND TO LOOK FORWARD TO THE TIME WHEN GOD'S PROMISES WILL BE MADE FULLY TRUE.

During worship on Christ the King Sunday, we hear Bible stories that talk about Jesus as King, often from the Book of Revelation and the Gospels. Songs and prayers focus on Jesus' victory over sin and death, his role as a caring shepherd, and the call for us to follow him with courage and humility. The call for us to follow Jesus is certainly the most challenging.

Another observance on this Sunday includes the practice of Holy Communion. This is observed by the overwhelming majority of Lutheran congregations. However, it extends also to the majority of Christian denominations that celebrate Holy Communion. Receiving the spiritual nourishment of Christ's Body and Blood empowers us to follow where Christ leads. As well as connects us with our King, Jesus Christ who is the Great Shepherd of the sheep, the Lamb who sits upon the Throne, the One who promises to make all things new.

For Lutherans, Christ the King Sunday is both a celebration and a reminder. It helps us see Jesus as the true King who rules with mercy, forgiveness, justice and grace. It inspires us to live with hope and purpose as we wait for the time when heaven and earth are joined forever and God's eternal kingdom comes into its full glory and light.

*In humble service of the Triune God,
Pastor Jonathan Dolan*

This page is held for minutes of the church council. Approved minutes from September have not been submitted and will be included in the next Bethesda News. Thank you for your patience.



BOARD OF DEACONS – October 6, 2025

Deacons (Pat, Rich, Sergio and Josh) met with Pastor Jonathan.

We discussed how confirmation is going and some minor changes. We also discussed communication on when Pastor is going to be gone and what the plan is a little more in advance. We also discussed having the confirmation students being more involved in the 4th Sunday Kid's Worship service.

Thank you, Josh Hilfiker

BOARD OF WORSHIP

On Sunday Oct. 5, Janis, Marcia and Ortrude met after church.

We reviewed the Fall and Christmas schedule and discussed a few new things. On October 19, we will ask Rich to announce that people should think about wearing traditional red for Reformation Sunday 10/26

We will try having "choose your hymn sing" 10 minutes before church on Sundays in December (not the Sunday of the Christmas program) to see how it goes. Marcia will ask Pastor if he wants to do any special service for the Sunday after Christmas other than what we did last year. Janis will talk to Roxie about getting youth to help bringing decorations out Wednesday 11/26 in preparation for "Hanging of the Greens" Sunday 11/30. We will talk to Julie and find out if Rob Fisher and his son will be singing and playing guitar on Christmas Eve.

Respectfully submitted, Ortrude Dial

BOARD OF EDUCATION - 10/13/25

Sunday School is off to a good start. One group seems to be ok. If we could get additional teachers our preference would be to have 2 groups. Our plan is to continue with 1 group, in the chapel, through the end of the year. Amy is working on a schedule. Pastor gave us a World Hunger Advent Calendar to possibly use for Sunday School. Christmas Program will be 12/14/25 during the church service. We are working on a plan for kids interested in a 1st Communion Class. We will touch base the 1st week of November to schedule the next meeting. The plan is to communicate via text message.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND STEWARDSHIP:

We met with pastor last night and are working on some stewardship activities for the beginning of the year. Coat drive is going well. I will be getting giving tree forms ready to go out the beginning of November.



The Lunch Wagon – Jewell Residents

- **Do you need assistance with meals?**
- **Do you live in Jewell?**
- **Are you homebound?**
- **Are you recovering at home?**

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you can contact:

**Susan Lund at 515-290-3000 or
Sarah Freeman at 515-291-1528**

- **Lunches will be delivered Monday through Friday between 11:30 to 12:15.**
- **The cost of the lunch is \$5.00 per meal.**
- **Lunches will be prepared in Jewell by:**
- **JEWELL MARKET: Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs and**
- **THE MALIBU: Fri.**
- **Lunches will NOT be delivered on holidays.**

Interim Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Dolan

Deacon roster:

Pat Melchert: 515-451-0389; Richard Heeren: 515-231-2886; Sergio Gomez Roaro: 515-310-2096; Josh Hilfiker: 515-460-3637

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Donna Busch, Admin. Assist.; Lisa Peterson, Custodian; Julie Lutjen, Accompanist; Confirmation Students, Sound and Technical Team

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Congregation Officers:

Jeff Scott, President; Vacant, Vice-Pres.

Sherri Hove, Treasurer; Sheri Muller, Secretary

Attendance

Attendance		Cable television
09/28	79	Please note: Stratford Complete Communications Channel 14 has been "under construction". It is hoped that the service will return soon.
10/05	74	
10/12	71	
10/14	27-Timberland	
10/19	89	
10/26	95	

Fund Balances to-date: October 27, 2025

Fund Name	2025 Budget (only applies to General Fund)	Needed per week to meet budget-GF	Needed @ 43 weeks to meet budget-GF	Actual received 43 weeks	Disbursements to-date	To-date Transfers from Contingency Fund	Fund Balances
General Fund	\$186,911.72	\$3,594.46	\$154,561.61	\$141,836.05	\$118,013.42		\$23,822.63
Sunday School	NA	NA	NA	\$1,029.59	\$986.84	\$3,200.00	\$7,093.81
Youth & Family	NA	NA	NA	\$3,111.74	\$3,896.93		\$20,301.57
Designated Missions	NA	NA	NA	\$19,714.62	\$18,413.33		\$9,733.58
Undesignated Missions	NA	NA	NA	\$715.00	\$333.00		\$3,278.13
Discretionary Fund	NA	NA	NA	\$948.00	\$923.98		\$1,201.38
Capital Improvements	NA	NA	NA	\$3,911.00	\$3,500.00		\$7,211.02
Gifts and Memorials	NA	NA	NA	\$413.58	\$1,675.56		\$11,230.96
Contingency Fund	NA	NA	NA	-0-	\$4,569.24		\$62,447.28
Endowment Fund*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		

*Funds managed offsite

Note: This is for everyone's information and is: General Fund ONLY

General Fund	Income	Transferred from Contingency Fund	Disbursements	Fund Balance at end of month
January Only	\$13,193.18	-0-	\$6,130.65	\$7,062.53
February Only	\$12,102.04	-0-	\$8,869.90	\$10,294.67
March Only	\$13,416.82	-0-	\$15,816.36	\$7,895.13
April Only	\$15,434.29	-0-	\$8,667.71	\$14,591.76
May Only	\$12,805.36	-0-	\$7,136.60	\$20,260.52
June Only	\$11,891.51	-0-	\$8,624.03	\$23,465.98
July Only	\$13,855.47	-0-	\$15,146.23	\$21,174.22
August Only	\$14,340.98	-0-	\$15,481.41	\$18,816.52
September Only	\$17,106.61	NA	\$16,907.63	\$19,094.17
October Only				
November Only				
December Only				



GIVE PRAISE

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, circle the word that doesn't belong. Then write the circled words on the lines below.

1 Give Take Grab	2 peanut praise pear	3 temple house LORD	4 proclaim past present	5 name boy lad	6 ruin destroy make
7 pine acorn known	8 train nations bus	9 done donut muffin	10 Sing Sleep Yawn	11 she him girl	12 sun praise moon
13 tell fast slow	14 red all blue	15 horrible dreadful wonderful	16 acts sisters aunts		

_____ to the _____, _____ his _____;
 1 2 3 4 5
 _____ among the _____ what he has _____.
 6 7 8 9
 _____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of
 10 11 12 13
 _____ his _____.
 14 15 16

PSALM 105:1-2, NIV



Celebrate the season of gratitude by creating a colorful Thankful decoration.

What you need:

- Construction paper in a variety of fall colors
- Pencil, marker, or crayons
- Yarn, ribbon, or raffia
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Real leaves (Optional)
- Wooden or plastic beads, cereal with holes (Cheerios, Froot Loops, etc.), or any dried pasta with a hole (Optional)



What you do:

1. Draw or trace leaf shapes onto construction paper.
2. Lay the paper flat and spray with water until the paper is completely wet.
3. Crumple the wet paper into balls.
4. Open the paper and let the sheets dry flat.
5. When dry, cut out each leaf.
6. On each leaf, write the name of one person or thing you're thankful for.
7. Punch a hole in each leaf.
8. Lace the leaves, beads, cereal, and pasta onto the yarn, ribbon, or raffia.
9. Tie the ends and hang your garland.



Answer: Give, praise, Lord, proclaim, name, make, known, nations, done, sing, him, praise, tell, all, wonderful, acts



Community Matters!

ELIM LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Elim Lutheran Church
350 4th St, PO Box 75, Randall, IA 50231
515-328-2485
office@elimlutheranchurch.com

September 27, 2025

Lord's Cupboard
439 Main St.
Jewell, IA 50130

Dear Friend,

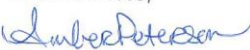
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the congregation of Elim Lutheran Church in Randall, Iowa, we are honored to support the important work of the Lord's Cupboard through a donation of \$1000.00. Your commitment deeply aligns with our church's mission to share Christ's love through both word and action.

We are grateful for the ways your ministry is making a tangible difference in the lives of those you serve. Please know that our church family is also praying for your continued strength, wisdom, and provision as you carry out this vital work.

May the Lord continue to bless you abundantly in all that you do for His kingdom.

In Christ's love,



Amber Peterson

Treasurer

Elim Lutheran Church

treasurer@elimlutheranchurch.com



Proud Partner of
Food Bank of
Iowa

The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry is open each Monday of the month from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. Additionally, the Lord's Cupboard is open the *first Monday* of each month from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. If you know someone in need of food assistance, please let them know of the availability of The Lord's Cupboard. If you have questions, please talk with Karla Alanis Palomo (515) 310-0151 or the church office. The Lord's Cupboard's location: Jewell, PO Box 330, 439 Main Street, Jewell 50130-0330.

Phone: 515-827-5148

Are you interested in volunteering your time with the Lord's Cupboard? More volunteers are needed and we would be very glad to accept your help. Please contact Karla @ 515-310-0151 ; or Sue @ 515-290-3000; or leave a message at the church office for a return call @ 515-827-5148.

Volunteers are always needed and the help is greatly appreciated.

Tuesday Together Time

The South Hamilton Community is invited to "Tuesday Together Time" each Tuesday at noon held in Bethesda Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. Bring a potluck dish to share with others. All tableware is provided. Don't have food prepared, please come! There is always plenty and, if you desire, a container is provided for you to put a little donation in to go toward Global Good Gifts.

- **Donations for Good Gifts are growing again; total at this time is \$82.33.**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON TUESDAY? DO YOU NEED A LITTLE FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY? JOIN US – THERE'S A PLACE READY AND WAITING FOR YOU!

Prize winners in October included: Robert St. John, Marsha St. John, Sharon Teig, Everett Peterson, Pastor Jonathan, Duane Hendrickson, Donna Busch, Vaila Downey, Brent Dunsworth, John Greenfield, Jackie Frederick, Jaci Edeker

TUESDAY



TOGETHER TIME

November 4: Tuesday Together Time will meet as usual in Fellowship Hall. The Narthex is being used as the voting precinct.

NOVEMBER Adult Ed. Series: The ELCA's "Use of the Means of Grace"

During the month of November, there are 5 Sundays. Interim Pastor Jonathan Dolan is inviting you to join a four-session (5-week) Adult Education series at the same time that Bible and Brew meets beginning on Nov. 2. Because there are 5 Sundays, that allows us an opportunity to spend a bit more time specifically in Parts 2 and 3 which are the sessions on Baptism and Holy Communion. This faith opportunity seeks to bring Word, Baptism, and Communion to life—rooted in the ELCA's governing document on those practices shaped for folks who value practical, faithful living in everyday work and community.

In each session we will read through the assigned parts together which means you DO NOT need to read anything beforehand, but you may choose to do so to familiarize yourself with the content for the session. By the end of month, you will be able to answer the question of why Lutherans are a Christian denomination that is rooted in the historic liturgy and sustained through the Sacraments to empower us for mission in the world.

Who would benefit from this class? This class is ideal for high schoolers recently Confirmed, lifelong Lutherans, folks who became Lutheran for their spouse, folks who have longed for a refresher of the central things of faith and everyone else in between.

The first session will cover the Preface and Part 1. The **Preface** grounds the series in a clear, life-giving claim: Jesus Christ is the living Word and the Spirit works through Word and Sacrament to create and sustain the Church to the glory of the Father. **Part 1: Proclamation of the Word and the Christian Assembly** will explore worship as the community's primary work of hearing Scripture, singing, confessing, and preaching. Practical, down-to-earth examples will show how the assembly gathers people to be shaped for service, care, and daily faithfulness—ideas you can take straight into family life, classrooms, clinics, and fields.

THE SECOND SESSION WILL COVER **PART 2: HOLY BAPTISM AND THE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY** WHICH CELEBRATES BAPTISM AS GOD'S ONCE-FOR-ALL GIFT THAT MARKS US AS GOD'S OWN. WE'LL COVER BAPTISM FOR ALL AGES, THE ROLE OF SPONSORS AND FAMILIES, AND SIMPLE WAYS TO LIVE OUT BAPTISMAL PROMISES IN ROUTINES, CAREGIVING, TEACHING MOMENTS, AND COMMUNITY LIFE.

The third session **Part 3: Holy Communion and the Christian Assembly** invites us to re-discover the table where Christ meets us with forgiveness, grace and mercy in his very Body and Blood in the form of bread and wine. Topics include the unity formed at the table, why regular celebration matters, practical hospitality for those at home or in care, and how Communion shapes how we welcome and serve one another.

The fourth session **Part 4: The Means of Grace and Christian Mission** will tie Word and Sacrament to mission—how worship and sacraments equip the baptized to serve their neighbors, teach with compassion, and respond faithfully to daily challenges. Expect concrete, practical next steps for living sacramental faith in your daily routines and community commitments.

Finally, you might be saying to yourself, "Pastor why is this an entire page?" Because it is a 63-page document and he did his best summarizing it as briefly as he could. Pastor Jonathan hopes you will come on this faith journey. Further, he hopes so many folks will attend that we will need to move out of the Lounge and into Fellowship Hall!

You can find the document by typing "ELCA Use of the Means of Grace" into a search engine or you can type this hyperlink into your web browser resources.elca.org/worship/the-use-of-the-means-of-grace/



Poinsettia Price List for Christmas 2025

Description: Poinsettias are pinched with multiple branches and full with blooms! Poinsettias come in red, white, or pink colors. The price includes pot covers; color of covers will be selected by Bethesda.

Your order request and payment must be placed with the church office no later than Monday, November 17th.

6.5" pot; Single plant \$11.00		7" pot - Double plant \$20		8" pot-Triple plant \$30	
___ # of Red	\$	___ # of Red	\$	___ # of Red	\$
___ # of White	\$	___ # of White	\$	___ # of White	\$
___ # of Pink	\$	___ # of Pink	\$	___ # of Pink	\$
Total \$'s	\$	Total \$'s	\$	Total \$'s	\$

Donor's Name(s): _____

Given in memory or honor of:

