

# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Ministry Team

Pastor Susan Dollinger : [pastor@bethanylongview.org](mailto:pastor@bethanylongview.org)

Church Musician Dorothy McMillan

Administrative Assistant Ginger Garner: [secretary@bethanylongview.org](mailto:secretary@bethanylongview.org)



## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Thursday  
9:30-3:00

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

Services 9:30  
Coffee Hour 10:30



*Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15 but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; 16 yet do it with gentleness and reverence.*  
*1 Peter 3:14b-16a.*

Dear Bethany,

I am writing this a few days after several of our youth read their faith statements. If you have not seen this moment, I hope you will find the service from May 24th on Facebook and listen to them. They are impressive to say the least. We have very thoughtful and amazing youth, and they are just starting their faith journey.

I would like to offer the same opportunity to any adult to write their faith statement and give their testimony. It is an amazing opportunity to attempt to put vocabulary to your faith. It is a rewarding experience, though not an easy one. After all, how can you explain the Spirit's fire that rests in each one of you and put it into words? Part of the exercise that the youth had to do was to find a verse (or two or three) that would help them explain their faith. Some people have "life" verses that they memorize. I have found that I have had several significant verses or Bible passages for different times of life. A few of mine have been:

Psalm 4:1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

John 1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Psalm 121:2 My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Currently:

Psalm 139:5 You hem me in behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

I love knowing I am hemmed into God's garment and surrounded and protected by him.

The second part of the exercise is knowing why you chose that particular verse and having a story to share that goes with it so that it is ready for anyone who may need to hear the Good News of the hope that is in you.

Blessings for this summer to you and yours.

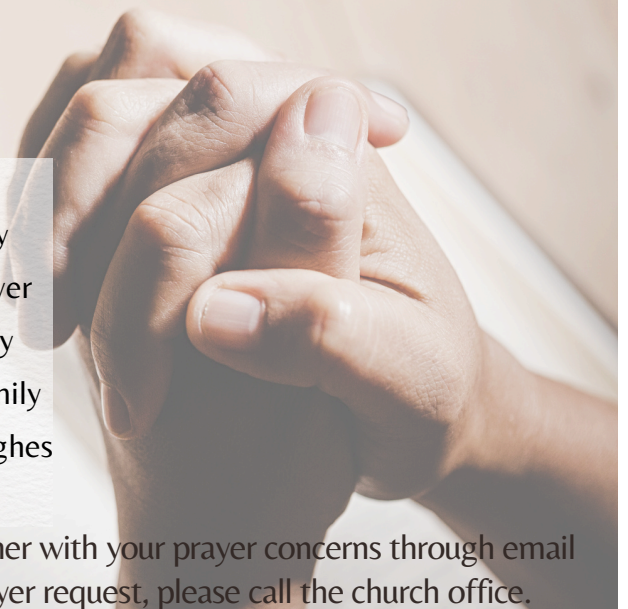
*Warmly, Pastor Susan*

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## Prayer Requests

Susan Shiu	Karen Langworthy	June White
Barb Clausen	Judy Bailey	John Mullaney
Kim Isakson Family	Barbara Price	Gail Obermeyer
Jennifer Nance	Custer family	Gilchrist family
Bob Baldwin	Krista & John Croy	Thibodeau family
The Milhisers	Takko family	David & Dana Hughes
The Newtons		

Shelly Limpach is our prayer chain contact. You may contact her with your prayer concerns through email at [BethanyPrayer247@gmail.com](mailto:BethanyPrayer247@gmail.com). If you have an urgent prayer request, please call the church office.





## How You Can Help: Nippon Family Relief Fund Now Open

This month our Second Mile Giving is for the Nippon Family Relief. If you would like to contribute, simply note it in the memo line of your check. Every gift makes a difference.

Our hearts and prayers are with the families, employees, and friends affected by May's tragic implosion at Nippon. This loss is felt deeply across our community, and we stand united in support of all who are grieving.

The Cowlitz Wahkiakum Labor Council along with the Longview/Kelso Building Trades Council has established an account at our credit union to help the AWPPW Local collect funds for the affected families. If you're able, please consider contributing—every act of generosity makes a meaningful difference.

Funds will be administered by the Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers (AWPPW) Local 153. Families are encouraged to stop by the AWPPW Hall at 724 15th Avenue, Longview.

## Ministry of the month: Stewardship Committee



Our Stewardship Committee this last year did a wonderful job in getting more pledges and inspiring members and friends to support our ministries. Without this drive, we would not be able to create a budget and meet our expenses. You have played a vital role in helping us do God's work at Bethany! Thank you to Phyllis Cavens and Dan Lane, for working with Pastor Susan to accomplish this! You have truly been a blessing!

### UPCOMING *Events*

#### **Council**

Exec Meeting: Wednesday, June 3 at 12:00  
Council Meeting: Thursday, June 11 at 3:00

#### **Rummage Sale**

Setup: June 9-11  
Sale: June 12-13

#### **Father's Day Potluck**

June 21 following Service

#### **Kim Isakson Celebration of Life**

June 27- Time to be determined

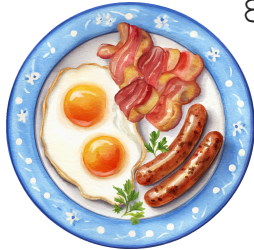
### *Gifted*

FROM MESSIAH LUTHERAN  
CHURCH - VANCOUVER

15 prayer shawls have been donated to go to anyone in the community.

# Opportunities to Gather & Learn

Tuesday Breakfast Group  
8:00 am



## Corner Cafe

796 Commerce Ave. Suite 103  
What a great opportunity to enjoy  
good food and fellowship!

## Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays: June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



Women's Bible Study is based through  
Gather Magazine, \$9.95 for new  
subscribers.

We gather for prayers, cares, concerns,  
challenges, and celebration in the  
Faith room & on Zoom

**Moments at the Lake**  
Wednesdays @ 1:30



This is a wonderful opportunity for  
people to sit in the Word and have holy  
conversation while we discuss the  
scriptures for the following Sunday.

DUCT TAPE



Duct Tape meets every Thursday at  
9:00 am with a coffee and donut break  
at 10:00 am

## BIBLE STUDY



Online Fridays @ 10:00 am  
in person Sundays @ 11:15 am

## SMALL SEEDS and Sprouts



Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each  
month during the school year.  
12:30-2:00 pm

# CELEBRATE CELEBRATE CELEBRATE

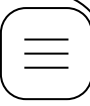
03 Ardyth Loewen  
05 Karen Langworthy  
08 Audrey Schauer  
11 Shelly Limpach  
12 Evelyn Jackson  
13 Pam Alexander

19 Dan Sharp  
26 Gil Schauer  
27 Debra Takko  
29 Kim Moran

**Anniversaries**  
07 Clarence & Kathy Newton  
17 Bob & Pat Reistroffer  
18 Robert & Barbara Price



# MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS



	June 7	June 14 Lay Sunday	June 21	June 28
Greeter	Sandy Smith	Phyllis Cavens	Don Wallin	George Obermeyer
Ushers	Barb Wilson Karen Langworthy	Harold Nunn Beth Grambo	Russ Gilchrist	
Reader	Phyllis Cavens			
Communion Setup		-----		
Communion Assist		-----		
Powerpoint			Carol Thompson	
Live Service				
Financial Secretary	Mary Storm	Pam van den Driessche	Barb Wilson	Mary Storm
Coffee Hour	Beth Grambo Barb Clausen	Harry & Dot Blair Duane & Carol Thomspen	Father's Day Potluck	
Volunteer Coordinator	Beth Grambo	George Obermeyer		

**DID YOU KNOW?**



*Juneteenth*

*Is One of the Oldest Celebrations of Freedom.*

*June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026*



Juneteenth has been celebrated for over 150 years as a day of independence and joy.



# A heartfelt *Thank You*

We would like to extend a huge thank you for the generosity and the lovely cards you have given our family in the aftermath of the water and electrical fiasco. We are so grateful for your kindness. Our family is planning a few small adventures this summer, now we will be able to enjoy a little extra due to your generosity.

Thank you all for the very unexpected gift,  
Ginger, Justin and Cody Garner

# HAPPY *Graduation* Brady Goss

He will be attending WSU in Pullman as an engineering student and plans to be a part of the marching band.



**May God's light guide you every step of your journey.**

**Bethany Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes – Thursday, May 14, 2026 3:00p.m.**

**Attendance – Present:** Pastor Susan Dollinger, Beth Grambo, Susan Shui, George Obermeyer, Barb Clausen, John Pelster  
**Absent:** Tori Gosch, Phyllis Cavens

**Devotions and Prayer** –John Pelster

**Call to Order and President's Report** – Barb Clausen - Meeting called to order at 3:11

- Decisions made between Council Meetings: Authorized plumber to fix broken water pipe for \$1206 & rented commercial fan to clear out the crawl space moisture.
- Agenda Changes – Website update
- Devotions for Thursday, June 11 - Beth Grambo

**Secretary's Report** – Beth Grambo

- Approval April 9, Council Minutes - **Filed as submitted.**

**Treasurer's Report** – Susan Shiu

- Expense Report - **Moved, Seconded, and Approved as Submitted.**

April		2026 YTD		April 2025		2025 YTD	
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
\$12,067	\$12,189	\$50,722	\$51,352	\$12,467	\$22,961	\$46,455	\$60,213
Fell Short by \$122		Fell Short by \$630		Fell short by \$1,335		Exceeded by \$3,272	

- **Synod Benevolence:** \$422.35
- **Emergency Fund:** \$242.40 to Emergency Support Shelter
- **Attendance Avg. April:** 49
- **Sound System:** \$11,649.80 raised; \$23,349 quote (More coming from raffle \$379 and quilt guild retreat \$113)=\$12,141.80;
- **Copier Lease:** Ends March 8, 2028 (63 Month Lease, signed Dec 8, 2022) FYI
- **Spring Cleaning** May 16, 9:00-12:00

**Financial Review** -postponed

**Ministry Reports** –

- **Hospitality:** Joyce Croy: Father's Day - Potluck w/ special desserts; Confirmation - hot dogs & special desserts; Graduation - Pastor planning; Picnic - July 12th hamburgers, hot dogs & dessert provided;
- **Memorial:** Joyce Croy-committee approved the purchase of more hearing sets for the sanctuary for \$215 plus tax/shipping;
- **Worship/Music:** Pastor Susan-Pentecost May 24th and Holy Trinity Day May 31st;

Barb Bley service April 25 was a Scottish celebration; Lay-led service June 14? Thank you, Beth Grambo, for preaching on April 19! Great message! Father's Day & New Member Sunday, June 21st;

- **Youth/Service:** Barb Clausen
- Summer Experience with youth to be determined;
- FISH-distribution on May 15
- Confirmation Plans - May 24 with faith statement; Bibles with names & crosses to be given; congregational picture to be taken May 24 after the service—wear red please!
- Youth - wants to become a Bible study group! Praise the Lord!
- **Duct Tape Crew:** George Obermeyer
- Weekly: Mowed most of the entire property (thank you, Russ!), Clean up Day May 16 9:00-12:00; Furnace filter changed;
- Progress on Checklist-will get a system in place to refer to it;
- Cost of Water Pipe - Plumber payment from capital improvement approved via email & re-affirmed here. **It was moved, seconded and approved to pay Ginger 4 additional hours to keep the building open during**

**repair after her regular hour.** A collection will be taken up on Sunday for the Garner family in appreciation of their numerous contributions to the congregation.

- Repair of Dimmer - Justin took it apart and replaced the part;
- Life Works - Switched to vacuuming & Carol Thompson prefers to do restrooms; lawn mowing volunteer is being considered;
- Outdoor Play Box - Needs to be sorted and cleaned out (water logged);
- **Stewardship:** No report. *Need volunteers for this team!* Begin late summer;
  - **Mutual Ministry:** Meeting May 27 10:30;
  - **Education:**
    - Women's Bible Study- Meeting each Tuesday, 10:30 all of May (*Gather, Taste*)
    - Bible Study meeting will continue; with Mathew;
- **Women of Bethany:** Meeting in the fall;
- **Minister's Report:** Pastor Susan Dollinger

Pastor's goals-met w/Ginger to sync calendars & discuss plans; organizing with Dor for services; met with Pr Melissa Anderson about outreach service in Longview; planning a longer vacation to rest;

- **Goal/Action Plan Progress Report:**
- Goal-Based upon the Call of Abraham a SMART Goal was made for our North Star:

*To increase our visibility and outreach in the community and celebrate the miracle of Bethany.*

- Discussion of Planning List July-August Public Events on Summer Evenings-Barb & Pr. Susan (see attached) Start July 1 or July 15?

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- **Recap of Water and Electrical Incidents** - Discussion
- **Website Updates** - Next meeting is scheduled for 5/19/2026. Template is selected and integration work is ongoing. Saving money, will host for free, & free data;

#### **New Business:**

- **Annual Reviews of Staff** - Pr. Susan will report the results by June;
- **Annual Review of Pastor** - Beth & Barb schedule date to review with Pr Susan;
- **Synod Education Workshops** - June 30th, Pastor Susan will attend.
- **Master Breaker List** - Barb has asked Ginger to create for the closet & office;
- **Quarterly Meeting:** Today at 4:30pm;
- **New Member: Moved, seconded and approved new members Harold Nunn and Cyndie & Dave Long to join.**

#### **Staff Report:**

- **Hearing Devices** - New devices have been ordered.
- **Vacation Request** - Pastor Susan is asking for **June 3 & 4 as vacation; Motion, seconded and approved.**
- **Facility Use** – None

**Announcements and Adjournment** – Barb Clausen - Adjourned at 4:00

**Next Scheduled Meetings: Executive Committee – Wednesday, June 3 (zoom) 12:00**

**Council – Thursday, June 11, 2026 – 3:00 pm**

# Updates



We have changed the formatting of our monthly newsletter due to the discontinuation of our previous program through Microsoft.

The positive side to this is that it email friendly, whereas the other version was not. There may be changes each month as we settle in.

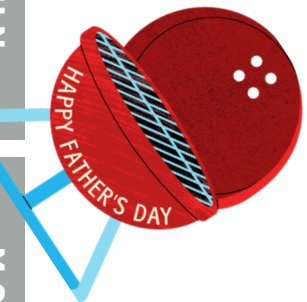
If you haven't opened up the weekly announcement emails in awhile, we encourage you to see what changes have been made to make it easier to see the upcoming schedule.

If you would like to submit anything for our July Newsletter, please have it to Ginger by June 18

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Avg</b>	<b>48</b>

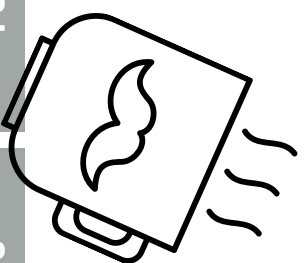
<b>Offering to date May (5/31 not included)</b>	
<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
\$54,170	\$60,941
<b>Expenses to date May</b>	
<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
\$87,737	\$62,448

<b>Name/Position/Term</b>
1. John Pelster (2029)
2. Barbara Clausen (2027)
3. Susan Shiu (Treasurer)
4. Phyllis Cavens (2029)
5. George Obermeyer (2029)
6. Beth Grambo (2027)
7. Tori Gosch (2028)
8. P. Susan Dollinger (Pastor)



# Bethany Lutheran Church

## JUNE 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 9:30 Sunday Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	<b>8</b> <b>Rummage Sale Setup</b> Entire week	<b>2</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> <b>12:00 Exec Meeting</b> 1:30 Moments @ the Lake Pastor out of office	<b>4</b> 9:00 Duct tape 10:00 Coffee w/ DT	<b>5</b> <b>9:00 Rummage Sale</b> Last Day of School	<b>6</b> Longview Graduation
<b>7</b> 9:30 Sunday Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	<b>15</b> <b>Lay led Sunday</b> Small Seeds Sunday 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	<b>9</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 1:30 Moments @ the Lake	<b>11</b> 9:00 Duct tape 10:00 Coffee w/ DT <b>3:00 Council Meet</b>	<b>12</b> <b>JuneFest!</b>	<b>13</b> <b>9:00 Rummage Sale</b> Kelso Graduation
<b>14</b> <b>Lay led Sunday</b> Small Seeds Sunday 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	<b>16</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 1:30 Moments @ the Lake	<b>18</b> 9:00 Duct tape 10:00 Coffee w/ DT	<b>19</b> <b>JuneFest!</b>	<b>20</b> Kim Isakson service	
<b>21</b> <b>New Member</b> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Potluck	<b>22</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 1:30 Moments @ the Lake	<b>24</b> Pr. Out of Office	<b>25</b> 9:00 Duct tape 10:00 Coffee w/ DT	<b>26</b> Kim Isakson service	
<b>28</b> Sunday Service 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour	<b>29</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 6:00 Boy Scouts	<b>30</b> 8:00 Breakfast Group 6:00 Boy Scouts				



**Bethany Lutheran Church**

2900 Parkview Drive, Longview, WA 98632

Phone: 360-577-8240

**GOD'S BLESSINGS TO**

June 2026

**NEWSLETTER**

Bethanylongview.org

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