

March Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00am Traditional Worship Service
10:00am Sunday School
10:30am Contemporary Worship Service

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, March 3rd	9:00am-3:00pm HOPE Boutique
Wednesday, March 7th	5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service
Sunday, March 11th	Daylight Savings Time Begins Installation of Council Members at Both Services
Wednesday, March 14th	5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service
Wednesday, March 21st	5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service
Thursday, March 22nd	MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30am-6:00pm Prayer Vigil 6:30pm Worship Service
Friday, March 23rd	GOOD FRIDAY 6:30pm Worship Service
Saturday, March 31st	10:00am Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 1st	EASTER SUNDAY 9:00am and 10:30am Worship Service

From Pastor Maggie – Living into Lent

Spring is coming! The days are getting longer. Can you believe we have gained over two hours of sunlight since December 21st? The owls are nesting and other birds are beginning to practice for their spring recitals. Yes spring is coming. However as I write this article it is snowing like crazy and it is predicted we will get about six to twelve inches of snow over the next couple of days. I guess we can't break out the flip flops just yet.

Easter is coming! The weeks of Lent are counting down. The ashes have been washed off our foreheads and there are only five more weeks of Friday Fish Fry specials. However as I write this article I can smell the Wednesday night dinner being prepared in the kitchen and see people entering the church for dinner and Lenten worship.

It is not unusual for us Minnesotans to want spring and Easter to come quickly. We get weary of winter even when the sidewalks are ice free and the roads have dry pavement. We want warmth and sunshine. It is not unusual for us Lutheran Christians to want to enter into the Easter season. We want to sing alleluias and shout Christ is Risen!

It is difficult to wait and watch; yet there is peace and joy to be found in the silence and the expectation of Jesus triumph and ultimately our triumph from the grave. Let us not be in too much hurry to get 'over' Lent. Let us take the next five weeks to take time, listen for God and let the power of our faith story take hold in us. It is good to look ahead and hope but it is also good to stay present in the moment and find hope. Below is a prayer exercise you might want to try as you continue in your Lenten practices.

Prayer Exercise:

- Gather together a pen/pencil, paper, your bible
- Choose a location where you will have privacy and yet can observe the outdoors.
- As you look outside write down what you see. What is pleasing about each thing you wrote down?
- Look outside and write down what you are longing to see?
- Read John 14: 1-10 three times slowly.
- After each reading give yourself silent time to ponder what you have just read.
- Write down what you *see* and believe about God.
- Write down what you believe but look forward to having a clearer understanding down the road.
- End this prayer time sitting in silence and repeating in your mind :
Breathing in – *Jesus, you are the way*
Breathing out – *the truth, and the life.*

Youth News at Bethesda

MARCH 2018

Camp Registration Deadline

We will be going to Camp Wapo July 22-27. Please remember that the deadline to register for camp is coming up soon. You must be registered by **March 15th** in order to reserve your spot. Your friends are welcome and encouraged to come. Scholarships are available. See Kim Burress or Jacob Backman with any questions.

Let's go BOWLING!

The youth are going bowling at Drkula's on Sunday March 18th after the 10:30 service. We will meet at church and leave around 11:45. The cost is \$8 for members and \$11 for non-members. Come and join us for the fun!

Pancake Lenten Dinner

We are hosting the Lenten Dinner on March 21st serving Pancakes and Sausage. Please sign-up on the Youth

Board to bring items and also please plan on helping that night whether or not you are going to camp this year.

Dinner at Outback

Please join us for dinner at the Outback. On Saturday, March 24th you can have lunch at the Outback for only \$14 either at the 10:30 seating or the 11:30 seating. The meal includes a 5 oz. Steak, mashed potatoes, chopped salad with blue cheese vinaigrette, Coffee or Soda (no substitutions and no take out available).

A portion of the ticket sales comes back to our Youth to help them pay for the Mission Trip to Texas. The wait staff at the Outback will be volunteering their time that day, so we ask if you would be so kind to tip them generously. Tickets will be on sale in the Narthex March 11th and 18th. Last day to purchase tickets is the 18th.



Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **March 21**
*Lenten Dinner
Pancakes for-
Camp*
- ◆ **March 24**
Outback Dinner
- ◆ **April 7th**
*VFW Tacos/
Meat Raffle*
- ◆ **April—Gerten's**
Card sales begin
- ◆ **July 7th-14th**
*Youth Mission
Trip*
- ◆ **July 22-27 Youth**
Bible Camp
- ◆ **August 2018**
Relay For Life

Youth Mission Trip

We are headed to Houston, Texas the week of July 7th through the 14th for our Youth Mission Trip. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for this trip and the work that God will lead us to.

Youth: Jennifer Burress, Kate McCabe, Anna Watt, Laura O'Donnell, Allison Krech, Alysha Holmgren, Augustus Schussler.

Adult Leaders: Jacob Backman, Dave Hohle, Scott Burress, Jennifer McCabe

Contact the youth team with any questions!

Jacob Backman: jacob.backman@comcast.net
Kim Burress: kburress@msn.com or 651-457-7080 or 651-260-3922



Bethesda Missions

ILAG Guatemalan Mission
Neighbor's Inc.
Feed My Starving Children
Mission Trip Scholarship Fund

Mission Focus for March

NEIGHBORS MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE

Fill a grocery bag for a hungry family!

The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together Minnesota organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. Neighbor's Inc finished 2nd in the state in 2017 and 3rd in the state in 2016!!! **Let's go for 1st in 2018!** You'll not only be helping to stock our shelves for the busy summer months ahead, but you'll also be helping us secure funding distributed later in the year. So that means, a donation now goes the furthest of any other donation of the year. Last year the faith community donated 51,786 pounds and \$143,510 to help fight hunger at Neighbor's. Let's work to give even more this year!

Worrying about where your next meal will come from should not be your primary concern. One recent visitor to the food shelf had that worry and many more despite having lived in a responsible manner. Her husband and her dog had died and she had been admitted to the hospital six times all in the last year. Her basic monthly expenses were more than her income, and it made it difficult for her to afford food. Neighbor's Inc. provided her food with your help. Your donations made sure this woman would eat the next few weeks. They were also able to give her other resources and referrals to help her to manage medical debt and expense.

Guatemala Gala- April 6th

Join us for the 4th Annual Guatemala Gala at 6:00 pm at Southview Country Club
\$75.00 per person (\$15 deductible)

All proceeds go to the Guatemala Women's Center. Donations will go to expansion of the building of a center for 10 women and for ongoing support.

For more ticket information see Cheryl Hilber.

Food For Friends- Meals are available in the Caring Corner in the library (freezer and cupboard). Do you know of a need- sign a meal out!



MARCH 2018

"WALK IN LOVE, AS CHRIST HAS LOVED US" Ephesians 5:2

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,

During this season of Lent let's rejoice and be glad knowing that God is always with us. He protects us from falling into despair and gives us everlasting Hope. "The Lord Your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17

Sisters in Christ,

Nancy Todd & Dianna Houska

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring event:

Saturday April 14th breakfast and program at Timber Hills Lodge.

St. Paul Area Synod Events:

Spring Convention @ Christ Lutheran Church, Lake Elmo. May 4 & 5. Information is posted on the bulletin board about the material offering and a silent auction gardening basket.

Coffee BREAK!

Fair Trade Coffee is ordered by the Women of Bethesda and is used on Sunday mornings as well as all other Bethesda events. If you would like to purchase some coffee it is available in the lounge.

Watch the Women's board for more details.

Contact Information

Dianna Houska 651-493-0129 dianna.houska@gmail.com
Nancy Todd 651-455-2982 nancytodd19@yahoo.com
Womenofbethesda@gmail.com



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Wednesday Bible study
9:30-11:00 am.

We are studying the book of "Ephesians: Wholeness for a Broken World." All are welcome.

Contact Sharon Stanefski to join this group or just show up!

Book Club
We will be Tue. March 20th @ 6:30 pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Spring Event
April 14th

Spring Convention
May 4 & 5

Watch your e-mails for
future events



Women's Ministry Board Members

Co presidents:
Dianna Houska &
Nancy Todd

Co-vice presidents:
Jane Walker
Renee Deshane

Secretary:
Naomi Dorau

Treasurer:
Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:
Naomi Dorau
Sharon Stanefski

Boutique spaces:
Lynette Thorson

Cookies for Shut-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Danielle Courselle

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

ReFresh & ReNew Chairs:
Cheryl Hilber
Robin Ross
Sharon Stanefski



March Sunday School

4th-10:00-10:30-Sunday School
11th-10:00-10:30-Sunday School
18th-10:00-10:30-Sunday School
25th-10:00-10:30-Sunday School

Easter Egg Hunt-March 31st

Details will be posted on the Sunday School Bulletin Board. I will need help from the youth (6th grade and up) & adults. There will be a sign up on the Sunday School Bulletin Board.

easter

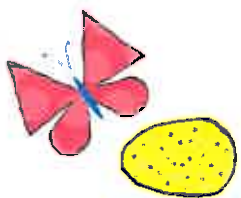


egg

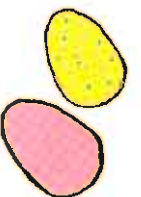
hunt!



MARCH
31st



10-11am



Treasurer's Report

January, 2018

Report explanation: This report is split into three sections. The largest section on the left lists the month end balances for all funds, including the general fund. The top section on the right is the Statement of Activities report that shows the income and expense activity for the general fund categories. The bottom box on the right lists the liabilities, currently consisting of the monthly payroll withholding, the renovation mortgage balance and the Tax Assessment loan with the Thoring Fund.

Please contact Gary Johnson with any questions.

All Funds	Balance
General Fund	(\$5,139.98)
Capital	25,925.03
Mortgage Reduction	5,550.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	0.00
Dedicated Memorial	3,185.00
Undedicated Memorial	0.00
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	0.00
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	0.00
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	1,360.88
Youth Mission Trip	1,282.37
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,936.30
Youth Camp Travel Fund	748.09
Hohle Scholarship	0.00
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,721.13
Christian Care Fund	986.23
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Pastor's Trip	0.00
Smores (Outreach)	3,033.77
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	65,296.39
Missions	1,176.25
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	3,042.07
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,524.63
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	0.00
New Sign Fund	6,396.00
Total All Funds	\$ 124,532.98

Statement of Activities	January	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 19,556.39	\$ 19,556.39
Loose	155.00	155.00
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	0.00
Other General Fund	310.57	310.57
Thrivent Dollars	162.00	162.00
Preschool Rent	1,163.50	1,163.50
Fund Raisers	0.00	0.00
Coffee Fund	123.12	123.12
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 21,470.58	\$ 21,470.58
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 12,979.22	\$ 12,979.22
Non-Salary General & Administrative	488.41	488.41
Property	3,776.70	3,776.70
Worship And Music	46.18	46.18
Education	0.00	0.00
Youth	229.86	229.86
Smores	0.00	0.00
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
Total General Fund Expenses:	\$ 17,520.37	\$ 17,520.37

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,972.66
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	424,089.80
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	10,443.00
Total Liabilities	\$436,505.46

Average monthly income needed to make 2018 budget:	\$ 18,320.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 25,760.57
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 21,470.58
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 17,520.37

March 2018

April Events: April 1st-EASTER
 Worship Service 9:00 and 10:30am
 April 6th-6:00pm Guatemala Gala
 April 6th & 7th LuLaRoe
 April 14th-Women's Breakfast-Timber Hills Lodge

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg.	2 5:30pm HOPE Setup	3 9:00am-3:00pm HOPE Boutique
4 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00am Worship Service * 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service* 7:00pm Girl Scouts	5 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	6 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm Executive Team 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Property Team	7 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00am Bible Study	9	10 9:00-6:00pm Food for His Children Group
11 4th Sunday of Lent (Council Installation) 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	14 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg.	16	17
18 5th Sunday of Lent 9:00am Worship Service * 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service* 11:45am-Youth Bowling 7:00pm Girl Scouts	19 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	20 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Book Club 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	21 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:15pm Lenten Dinner 6:30pm Worship Service 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal Bell Echoes Articles DUE	22 Maundy Thursday 6:30am-6:00pm Prayer Vigil 6:30pm Worship Service	23 Good Friday 6:30pm Worship Service	24 Youth Fundraiser at Outback 10:30am or 11:30am Seating
25 Palm Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm RFL Meeting 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	28 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	31 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt

March 2018 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Tyler Lowell	5	6 Ruth Okeson	7 Andrew Cousolle Loren Neubauer Jane Walker	8	9	10 Anne Kaldun Dave Rosati
11	12	13	14	15 Jane Gustafson Lorna Hohle	16	17 Jean Johnson Kristin Roberts
18	19	20 Greg Pearson	21	22 Joyce Tufte	23	24 Carol Evanson
25 Kay Roberts	26 Reagan Wilson Cooper Roberts	27	28	29 Pattie Rooney	30	31



YOU'RE INVITED

*Loren Neubauer will be 90 years old on March 7th.
Please join him and his family for birthday cake
between services on Sunday, March 4th in the Lounge.*

"OUR PRAYERS"

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.*

Romans 12:12



OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We ask that you keep these concerns in your prayers throughout the week. Please update us by filling out the prayer cards, available at the usher's station. Bethesda's Prayer Group meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Pastor's office, lifting the concerns of the week before our Lord.

We pray for the community and world:

For peace and justice throughout our world; For our leaders, who are facing important decisions and conflicts; For the unemployed and those going through financial distress; For the needed and necessary ministry among the poor. Neighbors, Inc. and Feed My Starving Children. For our sisters and brothers in the Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala and for our companion partner congregations Milagro de Dios, and Living Joy

We pray for the family and friends of:

Vicki Lundberg (Chet DeSchane's cousin), died February 19th

Agnes Strege, died February 9th

Vivian Rasmussen (Renee DeSchane's sister-in-law's mother), died February 6th

In our "circle of friends" (with long term care needs):

Darleen Heltne, Tom Muraski, Loren Neubauer, Tom Classen, Emily Willette, Andy Benjamin (friend of Renee and Chet DeSchane), Carol Evenson, Lorna Hohle, Dawn Belotta (daughter of Maxine Pfeiffer), George Pankonin, Evelyn Johnson (granddaughter of Donna and Gary Johnson), Christopher Johnson (son of Gary and Donna Johnson), Clarence and Lucille Sharrow, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neill, Helen Schadegg, Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Declan Beau Doyle (great grandson of Sally Muraski), Lucille Sharrow, Cheryl Christensen (sister of Joyce Rudquist), Ted Thorson (father of Randy Thorson), Amy Harrison (daughter of Theresa Staehnke), David Johnson, Kaelee DuFrane (Ray Morency's niece's granddaughter), Dianna Houska, Cheryl Hilber, Lloyd Sachs, John Sargent, Donna Johnson, Kim Burress, Brian Ginsbach (cousin of Ann Siegel), Felisita Delgado, Tonia Becerra, Barb Roth, Pastor Sue Gravelle (friend of Kim Burress), Amber Thorson, Jane Gustafson, Kay Roberts, Finley Doyle (great granddaughter of Sally Muraski), Emersyn Kay Johnson, Clementine Brown, Kyla Henderson (friend of Amber Thorson), Renee Edmunds, Larry Krech (nephew of Fran Delia), Judy Carney (sister of Naomi Dorau), Kyle Galle, Jane Walker, Mary Jacobs, Julie Swedberg, Kelly Dohmen, Kris Jore, Mary Morness

Hospice:

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), Kelsey Breitkruetz, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan),