

August Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



Summer Worship
May 28-September 3

9:30am Traditional Worship

Wednesday Worship
May 31 - August 30

6:30pm Contemporary Worship

Upcoming Events

- August 5** **10:00am VBS Rehearsal**
Relay for Life (3:00pm-Midnight)
- August 6-9** **Vacation Bible School (*Mighty Fortress*)**
- September 10** **9:00am Traditional Worship Service**
10:30am Contemporary Worship Service
Confirmation Starts in September

Pastor's Message
August, 2017

*Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.*
Psalm 36:5

As I write this article, I am enjoying our beautiful summer weather. When I see cumulus clouds piled up in the sky, which are more typically seen in the summer, I am inspired and reminded of God's love and faithfulness, as expressed in the psalm cited above. I hope that you are enjoying and are inspired by this summer season.

Since it is summer, we continue with our Wednesday evening services. Those have been well received, I believe, and in fact, the attendance has doubled since they began just after Memorial Day.

In July, I have preached from passages from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, and now I am about to begin a new sermon series for those midweek services. The theme will be: **What we can learn about God, the world, and ourselves from the Book of Genesis.** Here is the schedule of specific Bible stories:

July 26	Creation Story I, Genesis 1:1-2:4a
August 2	Creation Story II, Genesis 2:4b-25
August 9	The Fall, Genesis 3:1-24
August 16	Cain and Abel, Genesis 4:1-16
August 23	Noah and the Flood, Genesis 6:1-9:17
August 30	The Tower of Babel, Genesis 11:1-9

Come to our Wednesday evening summer services and get new insights on these old favorite Bible stories.

Blessings!
Pastor Ralph



Bethesda Missions

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

Mission Focus for August

Feed My Starving Children

HELP NEEDED DUE TO WAR AND FAMINE!!!

Please sign up to pack meals or donate toward meals packed!!! Sign-up online (or just show up at the Eagan site) to help pack food for starving children. There is a great need for food for the children of Africa due to continuing war and famine.

Guatemala Mission Trip

School supplies are on their way!

July 28- August 5th

The delegation will be focused on education and will be visiting several schools. A **Thrivent Action Team** has been formed and \$250 of action team seed money was used to purchase additional school supplies. **Jennifer Tiedman and Dave Hohle** are our missionary delegates for this year's mission trip. Please keep them, our partner church delegates and our Los Rosas partner congregation in your prayers.

Food for Friends

Meals are available in the Caring Corner in the library (freezer and food cupboard). Do you know of a need? Please take and deliver!

Neighbor's Inc.

Last year, volunteers gave more than 48,500 hours of their time in service to others. Join their volunteer team today!

- Volunteer on an **ongoing basis**
- Volunteer when it **fits your schedule**
- Volunteer with a **group or family**

Call 651-306-2145 or email volunteer@neighborsmn.org to discuss the options available.



AUGUST 2017

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

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,

We are excited to be your co-presidents this year and have some wonderful CALLED women of God joining us. Our verse is Ephesians 5:2 "Walk in love, as Christ has loved us". All of us have special gifts to share through Gods love. Pray about it and bring your ideas to the August 3rd general board meeting at 6:30 pm.

Sisters in Christ,

Nancy Todd & Dianna Houska

UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Club: Our September book discussion will be "The Shack" by William Young. We anticipate that many will attend as this has been a popular book! If you haven't read it, find it this summer and plan to join us in the fall. It's also a great time to invite others to join the discussion!

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

General Board Meeting: August 3rd 6:30pm to plan events.

Watch your emails for more information on future events.

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 morning
Bible study 9:30-11:00**

We will start again in
October.

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

WHAT'S NEXT

Mark your
calendars for the
Fall Kick Off
Event Sept. 12th.
Time and details
to follow.

**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

VBS 2017 is a victory celebration! In *Mighty Fortress* VBS, your children learn that in Jesus, the victory is won! They'll look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and explore five Bible accounts about God, our Mighty Fortress, and the victory Jesus has won for us!



Registration is open for grades pre-K - 5.
Our program schedule is as follows:

Welcome and Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, August 6: 5:45pm** Shout! God is Mighty! The victory is won!
Program and Ice Cream social.

Monday, August 7: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Fear not! The victory is won!

Tuesday, August 8: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; God is powerful and true! The victory is won!

Wednesday, August 9: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; God saves us! The victory is won!

Dinner and closing on **Wednesday, August 9: 5:45 pm - 7:30 pm;** Dinner provided with worship program to follow.

The registration fee is \$10 per student or \$15 per family with multiple children to help cover the costs of t-shirts, snacks, and supplies. This registration fee will be due by our Sunday night program. You can bring your fee to this opening program, drop it off at church, or mail it to:

Bethesda Lutheran Church
Attn: VBS, student/family name registration
2855 E. 47th St.
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Electronic or mailed registrations are due by Thursday, July 27th.

Come along with us as we sing fun songs, do crazy crafts, eat yummy snacks, play awesome games, and *more*. Plus, you'll learn in Jesus, the victory is won! Can't wait to see you there! To register, register online at

<https://goo.gl/forms/SambJlaYIHFzUm2w1>

Be part of *Mighty Fortress* VBS! We are still looking for volunteers in many areas!! Please let Beth McCabe know if interested!

bmccabe088@gmail.com

Cell: 651-315-4634





MIGHTY FORTRESS: BETHESDA

Join us for VBS 2017, as we explore how the victory is always won through Jesus!

Program Schedule as follows:

Welcome and Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, August 6: 5:45pm**; Shout! God is Mighty! The victory is won!

Monday, August 7: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Fear not! The victory is won!

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Dinner and closing on **Wednesday, August 9: 5:45 pm - 7:30 pm**; Dinner provided with worship program to follow.

Register Online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/SambJlaYIHFzUm2w1>

Call Bethesda Office with more questions: 651-451-1355

Vacation Bible School

Mighty Fortress: Bethesda

2017 Bethesda Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 6 – Wednesday, August 9, 2017

2855 47th St. East, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

651-451-1355 / bmccabe088@gmail.com

www.bethesdalutheranchurch.org



Ages 3 yrs to 8th grade: Students 6th-8th grade are invited to be volunteer helpers as well as take part in a special Bible study and devotional time. Volunteer positions are available for high school students and adults. Please call the church at 651.451.1355 to sign up to volunteer.

\$10 donation per student or \$15 per family donation for registration fees (fee includes a VBS shirt given on Wednesday). Please drop off fees at church, bring to the opening program on Sunday, August 6th, or mail to: Bethesda, Attn: Beth McCabe, 2855 E. 47th St., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076. **You can also register online at** <https://goo.gl/forms/SambJlaYlHFzUm2w1>

Parents/Guardians Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail _____

Emergency Contact - Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

1. Child's Name: _____ Nickname? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Grade this fall: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

2. Child's Name: _____ Nickname? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Grade this fall: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

3. Child's Name: _____ Nickname? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Grade this fall: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

4. Child's Name: _____ Nickname? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Grade this fall: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

5. Child's Name: _____ Nickname? _____

Date of Birth _____ Age: _____ Grade this fall: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

Allergies, special needs, or information for each child: (e.g Medications? Behavior concerns?) _____

For students entering 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, please let us know the area(s) of interest to help with. Possible areas include hands on learning, crafts, classroom, skits/puppet shows, stage design, songs, or games.

_____ My child(ren) has permission to walk home alone.

_____ My child(ren) will be picked up at 12:00 Noon by Name(s): _____

As the parent/guardian of the above named child(ren) I give my permission for them to participate in the Vacation Bible School at Bethesda Lutheran Church.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Registration fee: _____ enclosed _____ will be brought on 8/6/2015.

Youth News at Bethesda

AUGUST 2017



Our Mission trip to Loveland, CO went great. We would like to thank everyone for all of the support and prayers.

On Wednesday August 2nd, after the Contemporary Service, we will be having a bonfire at Church with s'mores and games, etc. We will also be having get-togethers on Wed, the 23rd and Wed. the 30th for 4th-12th graders. Your friends are invited to join us at all of these events.

We will be going to Cascade Bay in Eagan on August 10th. We will meet at church at 12:30 and return by 5:30. It's for ages 4th-12th grade with younger kids welcome if their parents come too. The cost per person is \$10 plus money for concessions and/or mini golf. Friends are welcome at this event as well. Please sign up on the youth board by Tuesday August 15th.

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ *Wed. August 2, Bonfire*
- ◆ *Relay for Life August 5, 3:00 p.m. - Midnight*
- ◆ *Vacation Bible School August 6-9*
- ◆ *Cascade Bay August 10th*
- ◆ *Confirmation Starts: Sept. 2017*



Vacation Bible School August 6-9, 2017

Hey Youth! How about helping at VBS?
Acting, skit writing, singing, dancing, coordinating games.
The list is endless.
Contact Beth McCabe for more information.
bmccabe088@gmail.com



Relay For Life August 5, 3:00 p.m.

Hey Youth! Consider joining our Relay for Life team. For more information contact Robin Ross at 651-210-5472

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
Beth McCabe bmccabe088@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

June, 2017

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	(\$32,975.69)
Capital	27,628.78
Parking Lot	120,580.45
Mortgage Reduction	5,411.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	78.75
Dedicated Memorial	3,250.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,020.04
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	(1,551.26)
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	180.42
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	1,656.81
Youth Mission Trip	214.47
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,774.84
Youth Camp Travel Fund	656.59
Hohle Scholarship	0.00
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	3,561.77
Christian Care Fund	836.23
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	93,472.00
Missions	2,029.50
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	1,943.71
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,716.24
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,548.77
New Sign Fund	5,691.00
Total All Funds	<u>\$ 250,933.68</u>

Statement of Activities	June	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 10,935.00	\$ 80,709.50
Loose	96.00	1,817.45
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	63.00
Other General Fund	56.57	612.44
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	1,444.00
Preschool Rent	925.00	5,330.00
Fund Raisers	100.00	4,586.00
Coffee Fund	0.00	512.66
Total General Fund Income:	<u>\$ 12,112.57</u>	<u>\$ 95,075.05</u>
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 9,886.20	\$ 64,610.06
Non-Salary General & Administrative	2,180.81	9,149.96
Property	1,983.63	25,389.72
Worship And Music	109.00	1,372.08
Education	137.50	509.98
Youth	0.00	240.01
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:	<u>\$ 14,297.14</u>	<u>\$ 101,271.81</u>

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,669.18
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	433,927.73
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	11,528.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$447,124.91</u>

Average monthly income needed to make 2017 budget:	\$ 17,551.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 12,112.57
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 15,845.84
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 16,878.64

August 2017

September Events:

September 9
September 10

Bethesda Booya
Fall Worship Schedule begins
9:00am Traditional Worship Service
10:30am Contemporary Worship Service
Confirmation Starts in September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Executive Team 6:30pm Property Team	2 5:45pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service 7:30pm Youth Bonfire	3 10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm SMORE Mtg 6:30pm Women's Board Meeting	4	5 10:00am VBS Rehearsal 3:00pm-12:00am Relay for Life
6 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship* 5:45pm VBS Program/ Ice Cream Social	7 9:00-12:00noon VBS 5:00pm Call Committee	8 9:00-12:00noon VBS	9 9:00-12:00noon VBS 5:45pm VBS Dinner/ Worship	10 10:00am NO Bible Study 12:30pm Youth to Cascade Bay	11	12
13 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship	14 6:30pm Quilting B's	15 10:00am Prayer Group	16 11:00am Mobile Meals 5:45pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service	17 10:00am Bible Study	18	19
20 11th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship*	21 1:00pm Quilting B's	22 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Council Mtg <i>Ball Echoes Due</i>	23 5:45pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service 7:30pm Youth Get Together	24 10:00am Bible Study	25	26
27 12th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship	28	29 10:00am Prayer Group	30 5:45pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service 7:30pm Youth Get Together	31 10:00am Bible Study		

August 2017 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Dannielle Coursolle Janice Taylor	9	10 Elsie Johnson	11 Scott Rooney	12
13 Peggy Krovchuk	14	15	16	17 Samantha Shanley	18	19 Donna Johnson Ray Morency Sarah Engen
20	21 Martin Myhra Clarence Sharrow	22 Trent Lewis Jill Hoffmeyer	23 Karen Hemmingson David Siegel Tyler Rooney Briar Rieke	24	25 Arthur Young	26 David Hohle Donna Neubauer
27	28	29	30	31 Charles Fox Cynthia Sanju		

"OUR PRAYERS"

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

Romans 12:12



"OUR PRAYERS"

Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church

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, Amazing Grace and Living Joy***

We pray for the family and friends of:

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

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, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Sharon Nelson, Kim Burress, Marsha Morgan, Brian Ginsbach (cousin of Ann Siegel), Christine Tarzia (friend of Renee DeSchane), Eileen Bohrer, Lloyd Sachs, Felisita Delgado, Tonia Becerra, Barb Roth, Paulette Brooks (friend of Renee DeSchane), Pastor Sue Gravelle (friend of Kim Burress), Amber Thorson, Steve Heltne, Jane Gustafson, Kay Roberts, Finley Doyle (great granddaughter of Sally Muraski), Yvonne Morency, Kelsey Breitkruetz, 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, Donna Johnson, Jane Walker, Mary Jacobs, Julie Swedberg, Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), John Sargent, Kelly Dohmen, Kris Jore, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan), Mary Morness, Dale Knutson (nephew of Jane Gustafson)

Hospice:

Darleen Heltne

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Larry Ross