

July 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

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| July 8-15 | Youth Mission Trip, Loveland, CO |
| July 10-13 | Neighbor's Summer School Feeding Program |
| July 23-28 | WAPO Camp Week |
| July 28-Aug. 5 | Guatemala Mission Trip |
| August 5 | Relay for Life (3:00pm-Midnight) |
| August 6-9 | Vacation Bible School (<i>Mighty Fortress</i>) |

Pastor's Message
July, 2017

The condominium where I live is only a block away from a junior high school. I was outside my building when the students were dismissed on their last day of school, and I could see the joy on the faces of the kids as they streamed out of the school. All of the teachers and school staff were also outside on the sidewalk next to where the school buses were loading students, and they waved goodbye as each bus pulled away. There were big smiles on the faces of the teachers, too. There was lots of joy to go all around that day.

Some commentators have made the observation that we are living in an "angry age". I'm sure that you have probably noticed that some people are indeed angry, anxious, edgy, and demanding. Maybe you also have experienced some of those feelings. Those folks and we also could use a good dose of joy.

During this summer we here at Bethesda are having our Wednesday evening services starting at 6:30 pm and held outside, weather permitting. I have been having fun at those services, and I have encouraged those attending to also have fun. However, it's hard to have fun if we do not have a joyful heart, regardless of the many challenges that confront us in the course of life.

So, at our Wednesday evening services, I will be preaching on the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Philippians, which some biblical scholars have termed "The Epistle of Joy". These Wednesday sermons will be different than the sermons that I will preach on Sunday mornings. Thus, if you go to both the Sunday morning and the Wednesday evening services, you will hear a different sermon in each. Come and join us!

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." Philippians 4:4

Have a blessed summer filled with joy!
Pastor Ralph



Bethesda Missions

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

Mission Focus for July Neighbor's Inc.

Neighbor's Summer School Feeding Program **Bethesda is responsible for just one- four day week!**

Please sign-up on lounge bulletin board to help local children for a couple of hours by serving either breakfast or lunch at **Kaposia Elementary school during the week of July 10th-13th(just 4 days Monday- Thursday).**

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 **July 28- August 5th**

The delegation will be focused on education and will be visiting several schools. **Donations for school supplies would be much appreciated.** A **Thrivent Action Team** has been formed and **\$250** of action team seed money will also be used to purchase additional school supplies. Both Jennifer Tiedman and Dave Hohle will be a part of this year's mission trip. If you want additional information about donating educational supplies please see either Jennifer Tiedman or Cheryl Hilber. **School donations may be placed in the Guatemala bound suitcase in the narthex.**

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!



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

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,

Thanks so much to the women who attended our June picnic. We enjoyed delicious food and great fellowship. We also learned a new meaning for ANTS. We are looking forward to an exciting year with all of you.

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.

Watch your emails for more information on future events.



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Wednesday morning Bible study 9:30-11:00

Starting Wednesday, June 21st and ending on the 26th of July. We will start again in October. We are currently studying "The Mission of The Church"

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

WHAT'S

Mark your calendars

Watch your e-mails for future events

Women's Ministry Board Members

Co presidents:

Dianna Houska & Nancy Todd

Co-vice presidents:

Currently open

Secretary:

Naomi Dorau

Treasurer:

Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:

Currently open

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

Kitchen Supplies:

Renee Deshane

Contact Information

Dianna Houska 651-493-0129 dianna.houska@gmail.com

Nancy Todd 651-455-2982 nancytodd19@yahoo.com

Womenofbethesda@gmail.com

Youth News at Bethesda



JULY 2017

Please keep our Youth in your prayers as they participate in the Mission Trip and head off to Camp Wapo:

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **Mission Trip**
July 8-15
Loveland, CO
- ◆ **Camp Week**
July 23-28
- ◆ **Relay for Life**
August 5, 3:00
p.m. - Midnight
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School**
August 6-9
- ◆ **Cascade Bay -**
Details to follow



Mission trip participants: WAPO participants:

Jenny Burress

Kate McCabe

Anna Watt

Augustus Schussler

Laura O'Donnell

Allison Krech

Alysha Holmgren

Ox Lake wrangler
volunteer (same week as
camp):

Jenny Burress

Megan Bencker

Gabrielle Erickson

Alysha Holmgren

Elisa McCloud

Jacob Monday

Heidi O'Donnell

Robert Torres

Isela Romo

Maya Erickson

Kate McCabe

Laura O'Donnell

Augustus Schussler

Allison Krech

Danny Delgado

Jackson Torres

Jack Roth

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



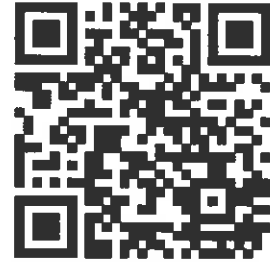
Relay For Life August 5, 3:00 p.m.

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

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

Treasurer's Report

May, 2017

Note: I have added the amount of monthly income required to meet the budget, the current month income, the average monthly income year-to-date and the average monthly expense year-to-date at the bottom of this report to allow you to track how we are progressing against the 2017 approved General Fund budget. Thus far this year we are averaging a monthly shortfall of just over \$800. May income includes the \$3,571 profit from the basement sale.

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	(\$30,791.12)
Capital	27,628.78
Parking Lot	122,915.45
Mortgage Reduction	6,477.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	78.75
Dedicated Memorial	3,200.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,020.04
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	0.00
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	180.42
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	150.00
Choir	1,656.81
Youth Mission Trip	214.47
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,569.84
Youth Camp Travel Fund	856.59
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	93,317.00
Missions	1,613.25
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	1,874.34
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,646.86
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,548.77
New Sign Fund	5,636.00
Total All Funds	\$ 257,200.51

Statement of Activities	May	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 12,231.00	\$ 69,774.50
Loose	261.00	1,721.45
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	63.00
Other General Fund	206.65	555.87
Thrivent Dollars	7.00	1,444.00
Preschool Rent	925.00	4,405.00
Fund Raisers	3,571.00	4,486.00
Coffee Fund	93.25	512.66
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 17,294.90	\$ 82,962.48
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 9,590.75	\$ 54,723.86
Non-Salary General & Administrative	1,042.43	6,969.15
Property	4,538.34	23,406.09
Worship And Music	587.78	1,263.08
Education	114.98	372.48
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:	\$ 15,874.26	\$ 86,974.67

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,674.74
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	435,336.08
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	11,683.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 448,693.82

Average monthly income needed to make 2017 budget:	\$ 17,551.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 17,294.90
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 16,592.50
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 17,394.93

Relay For Life of South St. Paul *Light a Candle for a Loved One...*



The American Cancer Society and Relay For Life Of South St. Paul invite you to **CELEBRATE** cancer survivors and **REMEMBER** those we have lost to cancer.

One of the most special activities for Relay For Life of South St. Paul Area is the Luminaria Ceremony. During the ceremony, candles will be lit to honor or to remember friends, family members and/or colleagues who have been touched by cancer. Their names are printed on Luminaria bags and placed around the track and will remain lit throughout the night, thus lighting the way for Relay For Life participants. Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful and moving tribute as well as all other activities starting at 6pm at **South St. Paul Airport/Fleming Field on Saturday, August 5th 2017 at dusk.**

Thank you for your help in the fight against cancer.

Suggested donation of \$10 per Luminaria

Please make checks payable to The American Cancer Society (ACS).

Please light a candle in... **Honor of a survivor to celebrate that they are still with us**
Memory of someone who lost their fight with cancer who will not be forgotten

Donor Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Donation Enclosed: \$ _____

In Memory or In Honor of:	Name
In _____ of _____	_____
In _____ of _____	_____
In _____ of _____	_____
In _____ of _____	_____
In _____ of _____	_____

Please return to church: Team Bethesda Believers, Kim Burress or Robin Ross



August Events: August 5th Relay for Life 3:00pm-Midnight
 August 6th-9th Vacation Bible School

July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 4th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship Service*	3 6:30pm Quilting B's	4 HOLIDAY	5 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service	6 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg.	7	8 Youth Mission Trip Loveland, CO July 8-15
9 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship Service	10 Neighbor's Summer School Feeding Program	11 10:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Executive Committee 6:30pm Property Team 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	12 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service	13 10:00am Bible Study	14	15 Youth Return from Mission Trip
16 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship Service*	17 1:00pm Quilting B's	18 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	19 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service	20 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting (At Ann Siegel's) Bell Echoes Due	21	22
23 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship Service	24	25 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm RFL Meeting 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	26 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Contemporary Worship Service	27 10:00am Bible Study	28 Jennifer Tiedman and Dave Hohle to Guatemala	29
30 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship Service	31					

Camp Week →



July 2017 Birthdays

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2 Amber Thorson	3 Ronald Nelson	4 HOLIDAY	5 Brooke Schneider	6 Grant Doyscher	7 Tom Brennan	8
9	10 Mark Bratten Kristin Todd	11	12	13	14 Laura Goff John Sargent Katey Schneider	15 Brooke Fjerstad
16 Elizabeth Kaldun Mindie Schussler	17	18 Hannah O'Donnell	19 Christopher Johnson	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Ginger Schneider	27 Andrea Sonju	28 William O'Neill Griffin Schussler	29
30	31 Larry Ross					

The women of Bethesda have been purchasing the coffee for the church and are glad to make it available for church functions. However the purchased amount along with paper products and plastic ware exceeded our budget by several hundred dollars. We are asking you to be mindful in preparing an appropriate amount of coffee for consumption to avoid waste. Also if you feel compelled to help with purchase of creamer, juice, napkins or plates that would be much appreciated.

Thank you for being a good steward in this aspect.

"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:

Greg Walker, died June 12

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:

Marsha Morgan, Brian Ginsbach (cousin of Ann Siegel), Christine Tarzia (friend of Renee DeSchane), Larry Ross, Eileen Bohrer, Lloyd Sachs, Felisita Delgado, Tonia Becerra, Barb Roth, Paulette Brooks (friend Renee DeSchane), Pastor Sue Gravelle (friend of Kim Burress), Amber Thorson, Fred Grimsrud, 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, Kim Burress, 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:

For our 2017 Mission trip participants Jenny Burress, Kate McCabe, Anna Watt, Augustus Schussler, Laura O'Donnell, Allison Krech, Alysha Holmgren

For those attending WAPO Carol Bencker, Megan Bencker, Gabrielle Erickson, Alysha Holmgren, Elisa McCloud, Jacob Monday, Heidi O'Donnell, Robert Torres, Isela Romo, Maya Erickson, Kate McCabe, Laura O'Donnell, Augustus Schussler, Allison Krech, Danny Delgado, Jackson Torres, Jack Roth