

# July Bell Echoes

## Bethesda Lutheran Church



### †WORSHIP SCHEDULE†

9:00am Worship

9:25am Sunday School

10:30am Contemporary Worship

### †SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE†

9:30am - Sunday Morning Service



Worship at the Rock

Wednesdays 6:30pm

Nursery provided during the Sunday Morning Worship Service.

Guests are always welcome at Bethesda. Please feel at home and come again!

### †CONTACT INFORMATION†

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Bethesda Lutheran Church ELCA

July 2016 Pastor's Page

***"A Season that is Anything but Ordinary"***



Dear Bethesda Family and Friends,

In June we entered into the season of Pentecost. It is also called the ***"Season of Ordinary Time"***. Its primary color is green to symbolize a season for growing. Some say there really is nothing special or exciting about ordinary time. It just seems to happen day in and day out. It is a time to focus on the day-to-day realities of our walk of faith.

Thinking of this season as just day-to-day ordinary stuff, a filler of time, if you will, would be to sell ourselves short. It is so much more. It is a call to daily life and focus, of order and discipline as we walk by faith. And if any of us have been paying attention at all to happenings around us, in the world, in our country, in politics and so on, I think it is safe to say this time is anything but ordinary. It is a time filled with uncertainty and confusion, a time where chaos and instability can draw us into places that often seem hopeless.

This past Sunday evening, Cathy and I attended a Prayer Vigil in Eagan, where people of more than a dozen faith communities from Eagan, Apple Valley, Farmington & Lakeville, came together as ONE to pray for all the victims of the senseless massacre at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, FL. I was amazed at how simple, yet profound it was as we sang and prayed together, people of all faiths, Muslim, Christian & Jew all together for one purpose . . . to lift up people broken and in need. Simple but truly extraordinary!

I have been thinking each year as we plan for VBS, how we seem to take a simple theme and turn it into something far more than ordinary. By a little creative thinking, along with energy and commitment, we make VBS into something that touches and transforms the lives of both children and adults alike. This year Beth McCabe is leading us in this effort and it is fantastic.

Our theme this year is entitled . . . ***"2016 VBS Olympics"*** . . . but it is about so much more. ***It is a call to remember how God has always chosen simple ordinary people to do extraordinary things and as a result to receive the crown of life. Think about it for a moment and consider who ordinary folk train and persevere through all kinds of challenges and obstacles until they are able to participate in competitions that call them to new heights of possibility.***

Think about it . . . our goal as we put together VBS is to help kids and adults alike, realize, celebrate and commit to being just who God calls us to be, ordinary people with an extraordinary faith. Tony Campolo once said, ***"We are not called to be god or even play god. We are invited to be heroes in faith, which means we do have the capacity to fail, as all Olympians & Greek heroes did. But through Christ, we are also transformed to be heroes of faith, which means we have the capacity to do incredible things through Christ who strengthens us."***

As you continue your journey through the summer months, remember that the season of ordinary time is a season in which you can do extraordinary things. What would happen if we all stepped up to be heroes of faith, who have an effect, an impact on those around us, both young and old alike? Let's look deeply into our walk of faith to try to understand just what it is that makes it unique and special that we are invited to journey with Jesus and one another.

I hope many of you will use the summer as an opportunity to grow deeper in your faith life and in your partnership with others at Bethesda. Take a bold step to grow in faith through faithful prayers for our Youthworks Mission trip to St. Louis, MO July 5-8. Those participating are Theo Lewis, Kate McCabe, Jenny Burress, Laura O'Donnell, Jack Rooney, Augustus Schussler and Anna Watt along with Scott Burress and Beth McCabe as chaperones.

Consider being a special part of our involvement with Neighbor's Summer School Food Program as we help serve meals to the young children in West St. Paul. Our week for serving is July 11-14. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Jane McLagan. Help make a difference in the lives of children.

Or volunteer to be part of this year's Vacation Bible School program. It is scheduled for Sunday night thru Wednesday night, July 31—August 3. Contact Beth McCabe for more information. Help keep this vital and life giving ministry alive by giving your time and energy to being part of our *2016 VBS Olympics*.

Celebrating the Ordinary and seeking to make it Extra-ordinary,

*Pastor Terry d. Nordheim*

Pastor Terry

## **Summer Worship Schedule**

***Sundays 9:30am—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY***

***Wednesdays 6:30pm—MIDWEEK "WORSHIP at the ROCK"***

**Meet at the Rock Garden at Bethesda**

***In case of rain or excessive heat, (or mosquitoes!)***

***Worship will be held in the air-conditioned chapel.***





## Vacation Bible School!

Olympics 2016: Bethesda

Join us July 31<sup>st</sup>-August 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Bethesda VBS Olympics!



Welcome and Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, July 31: 5:45**; God teaches us **KINDNESS!**  
Program and Ice Cream social.

**Monday, August 1: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**; God teaches us **PATIENCE!**

**Tuesday, August 2: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**; God teaches us **GRATITUDE!**

**Wednesday, August 3: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**; God teaches us **LOVE!**

Dinner and closing on **Wednesday, August 3: 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

Register now!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/10v\\_Yp15Z-AuchS0IR-4dpr\\_6eA68gNMw6Q\\_bxfFGBU0/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/10v_Yp15Z-AuchS0IR-4dpr_6eA68gNMw6Q_bxfFGBU0/viewform)

**Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Vacation Bible School  
July 31<sup>st</sup>- August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Let us run  
with perseverance,  
the race marked out for us.  
-Hebrews 12:1**

# Youth News at Bethesda

JULY 2016

## Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to our 2016 Graduates. Good luck to all of you in your future endeavors.

Charlie Tiedman, Minnesota State University Moorhead

Gabby Rosati, Eagan High School

Maria Retting, Simley High School

Theo Lewis, South St. Paul High School

Rozlyn Wilson, South St. Paul High School



**VBS  
COMING  
SOON!**

**Youth members,  
grades 6-12, it's  
time to start think-  
ing about how  
you can help at  
VBS.**

**Contact Beth  
McCabe for  
further details.**



## Luther Dell/Ox Lake Campers

On June 26-July 1st **Jennifer Burress** will be attending Ox Lake - Horse Camp.

Then on July 24-29 several of our youth will be attending Camp Luther Dell. Please pray for all of them for safe travels to and from camp and that they feel the love of God while they are there.

**Jennifer Burress**   **Theo Lewis**   **Kate McCabe**   **Anna Watt** (friend of Jenny and Kate)

**Carol Bencker**   **Megan Bencker**   **Maya Erickson** (friend of Laura)   **Alysha Holmgren**

**Allison Krech** (friend of Laura)   **Elisa McCloud** (friend of Heidi)   **Jacob Monday**

**Heidi O'Donnell**   **Laura O'Donnell**   **Isela Romo**   **Jack Rooney**   **Sean Rooney**

**Augustus Schussler**   **Robert Torres IV**

## Wednesday Night Youth Fellowship

Every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Youth gather together to play games, have discussion, and eat snacks! Consider joining us.

**Contact the youth team with any questions!**

**Beth McCabe: [emccabe@gustavus.edu](mailto:emccabe@gustavus.edu)**

**JaimeAnn Ross: [jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com](mailto:jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com) or call/text 651-353-6793**

**Kim Burress: [kburress@msn.com](mailto: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 July* Neighbor's Inc.

# Neighbor's Summer School Feeding Program

### **Sign-up to help our Neighbors-**

Bethesda will again this year be involved in helping Neighbors Inc. with the **Summer School Feeding Program**. We are responsible for serving breakfast and lunch the week of July 11<sup>th</sup>-July 14<sup>th</sup> (no Friday). *Please sign up on the Mission Bulletin Board to help serve the students.* Work would involve handing out packaged breakfast items; counting meals served and wiping up tables. This service opportunity is easy and doesn't take much time. Neighbor's Inc. feels it is essential to provide these meals to ensure adequate nutrition to the students of our community.

**Moreland Elementary 7:30- 10:00 or 10:00-12:30**

217 Moreland Ave. W., West St. Paul

**We will need 2 volunteers for each shift.**

## Neighbor's Food Shelf

When summer arrives, parents must feed hungry mouths that have, during the school year, been given free and reduced breakfasts and lunches at area schools. In the summer, Neighbor's donations drop off, shelves are bare, and the number of Neighbor's clients increase. **Let's continue to remember Neighbor's food shelves during this time of year. ANY FOOD ITEM IS APPRECIATED AND NEEDED.**

## Farmers Market

**Another way to support Neighbor's Inc. during the summer is through managing a booth at either the South St. Paul or West St. Paul Farmers Market.** Let's get ready to help! Bethesda members can choose a date to manage the booth and collect the "extra" produce from area marketers. *Sign up for a date or two on the sheet on the lounge bulletin board.* Times and dates for two different sights are listed. Neighbor's Inc. feels that being visible at the market will promote the giving of much more fruit and vegetable products for the food shelf. See Fred Grimsrud for more information.

## **Sunday School News- July**

Summertime! We kicked off the summer by planting flowers in the church gardens. This was funded by some of our Sunday School offerings. Thank you to the youth and adult helpers that made the event a success. During our pizza time together after the work the children determined how to spend the rest of the money. Over the summer months the Sunday School will be adding a small bookshelf to the cry room that will have board books and quiet toys for children to use if needed. The remainder of the money will be divided between Neighbors Food Shelf and adding new supplies and books to the quiet bags in the narthex.

We encourage all Sunday School children to sign up for VBS! The theme this year is Olympics 2016-Bethesda! VBS is Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> through Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Registration forms are online.

Lastly, we want to thank Teacher Jane for all her contributions to Sunday School. She has decided to step down from being a regular teacher. We will miss her! She will still substitute, bake for us and help with occasional projects (love the way you sew puppet costumes!). We wish her well.

Happy Summer!

Your Sunday School Team

# Relay For Life of IGH, SSP, WSP Fleming Airfield August 5th-4pm-Midnight

Opening ceremony and survivor lap 6pm, Silent Auction 4-8pm  
luminaria ceremony dusk, closing midnight



**Please consider joining Bethesda Believers or visiting your Bethesda family sometime during the event. It's a great way to spend a summer evening and faith experience you will never forget. To join our team either contact Kris Bishop (651) 457-3010 or go to the Relay For Life IGH, SSP, WSP website [www.relayforlife.org/sspmn](http://www.relayforlife.org/sspmn) click teams and join Bethesda Believers. To guarantee your shirt size you MUST be registered by July 8<sup>th</sup>.**

The American Cancer Society and Relay For Life Of IGH, SSP, WSP invite you to CELEBRATE cancer survivors and REMEMBER those we have lost to cancer. Please consider making a monetary donation to our team by ordering a luminaria bag. We will decorate it for you and set it up for the event.

One of the most moving events 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 event, thus lighting the way for Relay For Life participants. Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful and moving tribute **at dusk** as well as all other activities starting at 4pm at **Fleming Airfield on August 5th 2016**. We LOVE to have Bethesda members bring a lawn chair and join us for opening ceremony as well as any other part of the event. **NOTE: This year's event will be end at midnight.** Thank you for your support in the fight against cancer.

## Suggested donation of \$10 per Luminaria

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

Cut here

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory or In Honor of: Name

In \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Team: Bethesda Believers

Please return bottom of form to: Bethesda Office or Kim Burress or Robin Ross



BELL ECHOES ARTICLE for July 2016

### **Reminder for Family Camp at Luther Dell**

Summer is here, and moving quickly! Join your fellow members of Bethesda for the weekend of July 15 through 17, and relax in a northern Minnesota setting. Try some fishing or swimming, listen to the loons call, maybe take a canoe trip down one of Minnesota's designated canoe rivers, go for a pontoon ride, or play games led by the camp staff. Baby/child sitting is available, there is a crafts area - and who won't be impressed by a Luther Dell sunset! All the cooking and cleanup for meals is provided, along with campfires and canteen times. The information and registrations sheets cover all this and more. They can be found in the camp section in the hall to the Lounge. Cabin housing (with individual bathroom and shower) can be reserved, or bring your own camper or tent (beautiful lake side camping area) for a reduced rate.

*Family Camp scholarships are available, too.* Please leave the **completed form**, with a deposit, in the church office or hand it to David Hohle **by July 6**. Make checks payable to Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp. For further information or questions, contact David Hohle at 651-450-0115 or [mbhotoy@comcast.net](mailto:mbhotoy@comcast.net).

# Treasurer's Report

May, 2016

**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 only the monthly payroll withholding and the renovation mortgage balance. Please contact Gary Johnson with any questions.

All Funds	Balance
<b>General Fund</b>	(19,898.11)
Capital	21,203.78
Parking Lot	121,197.07
Mortgage Reduction	2,223.28
Sunday School	861.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	0.00
Dedicated Memorial	15,035.85
Undedicated Memorial	1,356.00
Garden Party	(988.94)
Special Appeals In/Out	2,618.62
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Contemporary Choir	0.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	2,538.52
Youth Mission Trip	1,752.99
Youth Faith Based Activities	2,505.89
Luther Dell Scholarships	1,377.14
Hohle Scholarship	97.25
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,766.70
Youth Room Equipment	0.00
Christian Care Fund	0.00
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Pastor's Trip	0.00
Outreach	3,033.77
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	91,457.00
Missions	1,534.50
Tech Team	99.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	2,083.86
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,279.34
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,348.77
Special Appeal - Tax Assessment	0.00
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>261,447.52</b>

Statement of Activities	May	Year-To-Date
<b>Income:</b>		
Envelopes	\$ 14,135.00	\$ 80,371.00
Loose	256.00	1,408.95
Adopt-A-Bill	450.00	1,208.05
Other General Fund	97.25	5,683.49
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	963.00
Preschool Rent	825.00	3,870.00
Fund Raisers	4,300.00	4,300.00
Coffee Fund	164.25	699.46
<b>Total General Fund Income:</b>	<b>\$ 20,227.50</b>	<b>\$ 98,503.95</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Salary Expense	\$ 13,010.41	\$ 65,216.33
Non-Salary General & Administrative	1,950.78	6,805.11
Property	3,553.69	21,083.81
Worship And Music	108.77	1,112.52
Education	0.00	277.96
Youth	178.89	549.57
Outreach	369.02	377.80
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
<b>Total General Fund Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 19,171.56</b>	<b>\$ 95,423.10</b>

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 2,543.05
Mission Investment Mort.	446,526.34
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	13,543.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$462,612.39</b>

# July 2016

August Events: July 31—August 3  
August 5th

VBS  
Relay for Life

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> <b>7th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30am Worship Service*</b>	<b>4</b> <b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>5</b> 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Executive Team (Via email) 6:30pm Property Team Youth Mission Trip (St. Louis, MO)	<b>6</b> 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>7</b> 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORES Mtg	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <b>8th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30am Worship Service</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 10:00am Prayer Group	<b>13</b> 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>14</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>15</b> Luther Dell Family Camp	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b>9th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30am Worship Service*</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30pm Boy Scouts 1:00pm Quilting B's	<b>19</b> 10:00am Prayer Group	<b>20</b> 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>21</b> 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council BBQ.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>10th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30am Worship Service</b>  <i>Luther Dell Bible Camp</i>	<b>25</b> 6:30pm Boy Scouts	<b>26</b> 10:00am Prayer Group	<b>27</b> 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>28</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>11th Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30am Worship Service</b> <b>5:45pm VBS Welcome &amp; Ice Cream Social</b>						

# July 2016 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Amber Thorson
3 Scott Bergmann Ronald Nelson	4	5 Brooke Schneider	6 Grant Doyscher	7 Thomas Brennan	8	9
10 Mark Bratten Kristin Todd Rachel Kolnik	11	12	13	14 Laura Goff John Sargent Katy 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 Brian Stalock	28 William O'Neill Griffin Schussler Alexander Stalock	29	30
31 Larry Ross						

## 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:

*Michael Shubat, died June 23rd*

*Twylla Pfalz, died May 29th (sister-in-law of Dianna Houska)*

*John Hohle, died May 25th*

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

*George Pankonin, Evelyn Johnson (granddaughter of Donna and Gary Johnson), Christopher Johnson (son of Gary and Donna Johnson), Clarence Sharrow, Greg Walker, Ardie Bratten, Carol Evenson, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Vi Sachs, Bill O'Neil, Helen Schadegg, Darleen Heltné, Glenn and Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Eleanor Stephens, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen*

### For those with health concerns:

*Lucille Sharrow, Alice O'Neill, Julie Swedberg, Amber Thorson, Irene Zamora, Angel Fairbanks (great niece of Gary and Donna Johnson), Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), Sarah Engedal, Martin Zuniga (uncle of Dan & Amy Delgado), Bob Sharrow (brother of Clarence Sharrow), John Sargent, Lorna Hohle, Judy Carney (sister of Naomi Dorau), Dave Siegel, Jennifer Zubulake (niece of Ray Morency), Jane Gustafson, Sue Linn, Kim Burress, Jane Walker, Nicole Weiss (granddaughter of Chet and Renee DeSchane), Mary Ann Dalton (friend of Theresa Staehnke), Mary Lou Olson (friend of Kim Burress), Meg Johnson (daughter-in-law of Jean Johnson), Mandy Monday (daughter-in-law of Jim and Joyce Rudquist), Joleen Leier (friend of Lynette and Randy Thorson), Kelly Dohmen, Dawn Belotta (daughter of Maxine Pfeiffer), Kris Jore, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan), Andy Benjamin (friend of Renee and Chet DeSchane), Mary Morness, Sue Cavalier (friend of Jennifer Tiedman), Loren Neubauer, Dale Knutson (nephew of Jane Gustafson),*

### Prayers of Thanksgiving:

For those participating in Mission Trip our youth Theo Lewis, Kate McCabe, Jenny Burress, Laura O'Donnell, Jack Rooney, Augustus Schussler, Anna Watts, and their chaperones Beth McCabe and Scott Burress.