



June 2016 Pastor's Page

"Lead me to the Rock"

Dear Bethesda Family and Friends,

***From the end of the earth I call to you, when my heart is faint.
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.***

Psalm 61:2

As the weather warms and nature greens up again, signs of new life are all around us. I am sure many are turning their thoughts to summer vacation, the cottage at the lake and ways to enjoy more of God's creation. It also becomes a time for us think again about our summer worship schedule and why we come together on a regular basis.

I love the message of Psalm 61 as it invites us to consider well the power and strength of our God. One translation says it this way . . . "*when my heart is overwhelmed...lead me to the rock*". That is to say, whatever our circumstance let us turn to the God of our salvation.

Certainly God is there in wonder and majesty at our incredible lakes and streams and throughout the beauty of nature. Take it in and be renewed in all its splendor. There is power in the renewal of all of creation. But as the Psalmist also suggests, be sure that in it you are drawn to the "Rock" that is higher than you.

The Rock has always served as a wonderful symbol of our life with Christ. Throughout history, rocks have symbolized strength, stability, and foundations of faith. The Psalmist refers often to "*the Lord is my rock and my fortress*" or "*the Rock of my salvation*". Jesus even renamed Simon as "Peter, the rock" and indicated on his proclamation of faith he would build the church.

As you think about your summer plans, including vacation time away, think also about the gift of weekly worship that draws us to *the Rock that is higher than us . . . the God of our salvation who draws us near and lifts us up*. I hope you will make worship a regular part of your summer experience where ever you are. But always remember that Bethesda is here in your moment of need as a source of strength and hope and help.

We are also looking into new ways of enhancing our summer worship experience both inside our beautiful sanctuary and outside in the warmth of summer. **Consider our summer worship schedule.**

Sunday mornings each week at 9:30am.

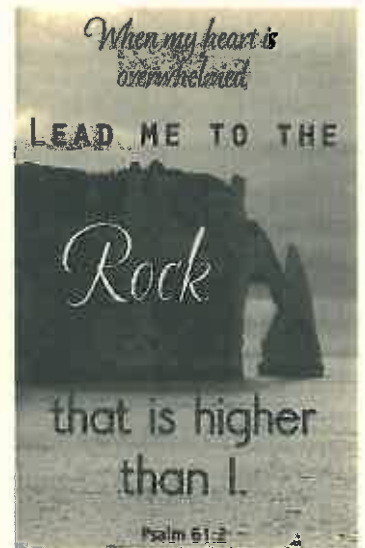
Summer midweek worship on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

Here is something new to tell your neighbors about.

In Christ,

Pastor Terry D. Nordheim

Pastor Terry



Summer Worship Schedule offers something new!

Picture the beautiful rock garden near the circle drive at the front entrance of Bethesda. See the cross on the hill, surrounded by greenery and peace. This will be the scene of our summer Wednesday contemporary worship, entitled, ***“Worship at the Rock”***.

The large boulder, with a history of its own, will serve as the altar area. Worshippers are invited to bring their lawn chairs, or use a folding chair from the rack. You will be seated on the circle drive, and together, we will worship and praise the Rock of our Salvation. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you!

“Worship at the Rock”

Wednesdays, beginning June 1

6:30 p.m.

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.***





Bethesda Missions

ILAG Guatemalan Mission

Neighbor's Inc.

Feed My Starving Children

Mission Trip Scholarship Fund

Mission Focus for June **Neighbor's Inc.**

Thank You for your support! The March campaign surpassed Neighbor's goal of 300,000 pounds/dollars. Data shows that nationally, suburbs have the largest and fastest growing poor population, and South St. Paul, West St. Paul and Inver Grove Heights have some of the highest rates of poverty within Dakota County. These cities also have the highest percentages of individuals in the county who pay 30 percent or more of their incomes for housing. On top of that, many of these individuals don't have access to a car and live more than a mile from a grocery store, which makes getting affordable, nutritious food difficult.

In 2015, 1,847 volunteers spent 48,510 hours helping Neighbors serve that in need. That includes: Providing food to 15,933 individuals through the food shelf, Serving 43,752 meals to kids during the summer, Distributing 1,643 clothing vouchers, Driving seniors to 2,122 medical appointments, Providing holiday related assistance to 950 families, Organizing social events for 150 adults with developmental disabilities and **Offering 5,000 referrals** to other forms of assistance.

Smore Dinner Event

Tuesday, June 7th at 5:30 p.m. - [Sign-up for this event!](#)

101 Ways to Spark Mission Action in Your Community

Come to a FREE dinner at Bethesda to learn about how Thrivent connects faith and finances for good. Tim Van Rooy will present ways in which Bethesda can be wise with money and can live generously through mission involvement. Through "Thrivent Choice", Thrivent can give Bethesda charitable outreach funds if members designate our church as their charity of choice and therefore the recipient of "Choice Dollars".

Want to do something positive to strengthen our community and our church? Learn how to form an action team to sponsor service projects or educational events here at Bethesda or in our community. Thrivent will give the team "seed money" to fund their "service" idea.

Are you handy with tools? Do you like to build things? Or do you want to learn new skills? Thrivent builds with Habitat for Humanity. Learn how you can help build homes or rehab and repair existing homes alongside partner families.

Women's Ministry Notes – June, 2016

Connected in Christ

"in Christ, we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:5)

Basement Sale – May 13th and 14th.

The 1st Annual Basement Sale was held May 13th and 14th. And it was a big success. A whopping \$4,000+ was given to Bethesda towards the deficit. A special thanks to everyone who helped, whether you donated items, worked at the sale, worked to prepare for the sale, donated baked goods, placed signs, put up posters, and the many other necessary tasks that made it so successful. Our thanks to Jane Walker and Dianna Houska who coordinated the whole thing. If you placed signs, please make sure you pick them up and return them to the church.

Women's Summer Bible Study

Women's SUMMER Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Have some time available this summer? Consider joining us on Wednesday mornings starting June 15th thru July 27th at 9:30 am for our summer Bible study. Can't commit to every week; feel free to come when you can. Watch for more details on the Women's Bulletin board or the Sunday bulletin regarding the topic. We hope to see you on Wednesday mornings!

Women's Book Club

Suspended until fall. Watch for more information.

To our existing officers

Special thank you to our officers of this year, for their dedication, their faithfulness, their willingness to help. So much was accomplished because of you.

Robin and Cheryl – co vice presidents

Jane as secretary

Jennifer as treasurer

Board members, Renee, Dianna, Marsha, Nancy, Jaime and Lynette.

All those responsible for the successful ReFresh and ReNew

Thank You!

New Officers

It is time once again to get our officers in place for the coming year. Our year is July 1st to June 30th. At our June meeting last year, it was agreed that our current officers would either continue in their role or find their replacement. Robin and Cheryl will be our co-president's next year. So this pertains to our secretary, treasurer and board members at large. Please contact either Sally or Dawn concerning your intentions and if you have questions or concerns, please let contact Sally.

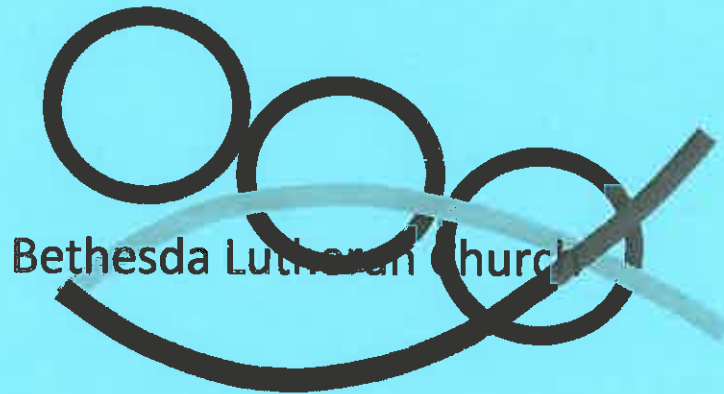
Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar, our picnic meeting is scheduled on June 14th, Tuesday starting at 6:00. Please bring a picnic item to share.



Join us for Vacation Bible School!

July 31st- August 3rd



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

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

Electronic or mailed registrations are due by Thursday, July 28th.

Register online at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/10v_Yp15Z-AuchS0IR-4dpr_6eA68gNMw6Q_bxfFGBU0/viewform



Youth News at Bethesda

JUNE 2016

GaGa anyone?

Dear Bethesda Family,

Our April Youth GaGa event was a blast. We had a number of youth along with some of their friends who spent hours playing GaGa in the new pit that was built by Pastor Terry, the Youth and a number of parents. There was sawdust everywhere, but building the pit together made it that much more rewarding in the end. Thank you all once again for your help. We also had some fun playing Sardines, eating pizza and just hanging out together.

Blessings,

The Youth Team

Gerten's Plant Cards Fundraiser

- ◆ Get your cards from on of our youth or from Kim Burress.
- ◆ Increments of \$25, \$50, & \$100 (Other amounts available upon request)
- ◆ Redeemable for plants at Gertens—not available for use on gift shop or other items.



Welcome (back) Beth!

We would like to welcome Beth McCabe back from College and are grateful that we can announce that she has agreed to step in as the Interim Youth Director for the summer. We know that Beth has a lot of great ideas and will make this a fun summer for all.

Contact the youth team with any questions!

Beth McCabe: emccabe@gustavus.edu

JaimeAnn Ross: jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com or call/text 651-353-6793

Kim Burress: kburress@msn.com or 651-457-7080 or 651-260-3922



Camp & Mission Trip

If you would still would like to go to Camp Luther Dell, please check with Kim for availability.

Or, if you are interested in learning more about the mission trip to St. Louis, Missouri on July 5th-8th, talk to Kim.

Upcoming Youth Events

Sometime in June we are looking at having a Water Park event for the youth. Watch the weekly bulletin and the Youth Board for further information.

Upcoming Confirmation Events:

- ◆ *Service hour forms are due.*
- ◆ *Rough draft of faith papers (8th grade students only) are due.*



June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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July Events: July 5-8 Mission Trip (St. Louis, MO)
 July 15-17 Luther Dell Family Camp
 July 24-29 Luther Dell Bible Camp
 July 31-August 3 Vacation Bible School

1	2	3	4			
6:00pm Contemporary	10:00am Bible Study					
Band Rehearsal	6:30pm SMORE Mtg.					
6:30pm Worship Service		Luther Dell Fishing				
		Retreat				

5 3rd Sunday after 6 7 8 9 10 11

Pentecost 6:30pm Boy Scouts 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Executive Team 10:00am Bible Study

9:30am Worship Service* 5:30pm SMORE Dinner 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal

6:30pm Worship Service

12 4th Sunday after 13 14 15 16 17 18

Pentecost 6:30pm Boy Scouts 10:00am Prayer Group 9:30-11:00am Women's 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am-2:00pm Card

9:30am Worship Service 6:00pm Women's Picnic Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg Making

6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal
 6:30pm Worship Service

19 5th Sunday after 20 21 22 23 24 25

Pentecost 6:30pm Boy Scouts 10:00am Prayer Group 9:00-10:30am Women's 10:00am Bible Study

9:30am Worship Service* Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals Kaposia Day Parade
 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal

6:30pm Worship Service

26 6th Sunday after 27 28 29 30

Pentecost 6:30pm Boy Scouts 10:00am Prayer Group 9:30-11:00am Women's 10:00am Bible Study

9:30am Worship Service Bible Study 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal
 6:30pm Worship Service



June 2016 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bill Taylor Andrea Engen	2 Naomi Dorau	3	4 Susan Doyscher Theo Lewis
5 Thomas Nelson	6 Sally Muraski	7	8	9	10 Shannon Thorson Waytt Schussler	11
12 John Holmgren	13 Paisley Bishop	14	15	16 Sean Rooney Maxine Pfeiffer Christopher Orpen	17	18
19	20	21 Cheryl Hilber	22 Pamela Murray	23 Gertrude Fox	24	25 Elizabeth McCabe Cathy Nordheim
26 Mark Engen	27 Rachel Wilson	28 Nick Ross	29 Marion Petersen	30		

Neighbor's Summer School Food Program

Our school for this year is Moreland Arts & Sciences Magnet School, 217 Moreland Ave W., West St Paul, MN 55118.

The dates are July 11th through the 14th (Monday through Thursday.)

Two shifts: 7:30 to 10:00 and 10:00 to 12:30. Sign up sheet on bulletin board in hallway.

Treasurer's Report

April, 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
General Fund	(20,954.05)
Capital	21,203.78
Parking Lot	120,677.07
Mortgage Reduction	2,649.28
Sunday School	754.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	122.69
Dedicated Memorial	15,005.85
Undedicated Memorial	1,356.00
Garden Party	(988.94)
Special Appeals In/Out	2,338.62
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	2,110.89
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	91,302.00
Missions	1,024.50
Tech Team	99.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	1,998.86
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,343.34
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,348.77
Special Appeal - Tax Assessment	0.00
Total All Funds	258,922.27

Statement of Activities	March	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 14,761.00	\$ 66,236.00
Loose	261.00	1,152.95
Adopt-A-Bill	488.95	758.05
Other General Fund	43.73	5,586.24
Thrivent Dollars	375.00	963.00
Preschool Rent	825.00	3,045.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	0.00
Coffee Fund	110.00	535.21
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 16,864.68	\$ 78,276.45
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 12,631.04	\$ 52,205.92
Non-Salary General & Administrative	840.65	4,854.33
Property	4,396.67	17,530.12
Worship And Music	586.71	1,003.75
Education	0.00	277.96
Youth	62.26	370.68
Outreach	8.78	8.78
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
Total General Fund Expenses:	\$ 18,526.11	\$ 76,251.54

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 2,589.33
Mission Investment Mort.	447,935.00
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	13,698.00
Total Liabilities	\$464,222.33

"OUR PRAYERS"

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

Romans 12:12



"OUR PRAYERS"

Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church

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:

John Hohle, died May 25th

Richard Navratil, died May 18th (uncle of Randy Thorson)

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 and Alice O'Neil, Helen Schadegg, Darleen Heltne, Glenn and Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Eleanor Stephens, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

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, Twylla Pfalz (sister-in-law of Dianna Houska), 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), Claude Baumann (uncle of Lynette Thorson), Joleen Leier (friend of Lynette and Randy Thorson), Michele Baumann (cousin of Lynette 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:

Bob Johnson (brother of Gary Johnson),