

May Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Friday & Saturday May 4-5		Women's Spring Convention
Friday, May 11	8:00am-6:00pm	Basement Sale
Saturday, May 12	8:00am-3:00pm	Basement Sale
Friday, May 18	6:00pm	Youth Friday Funday
Friday & Saturday May 18 19		Synod Assembly
Sunday, May 10		Youth-Avenger Movie
	Summer Worship Schedule Begins	
Sunday May 27	9:00am	Worship Service
Monday May 28	Memorial Day	
Wednesday, June 6	6:30pm	Worship Service (In Chapel)

From Pastor Maggie -

As I sit down to write this newsletter article ice and snow are pelting the window I am sitting next to and the wind is howling ferociously. Inwardly I am howling ferociously as well; it is April 14th for goodness sake! I have just cancelled worship services for tomorrow because of the blizzard that has descended upon us. Notice that I did not say that I cancelled church. It is impossible to cancel church. The Christian church is the body of Christ. All those who believe in the Trinitarian God. Weather cannot shut down the church, neither can illness, personal hardship or even apathy. It is comforting and empowering to think that even though there are times we cannot get out, move, and gather together we are still connected to an ever active and thriving body of Christ! We are always, at all times, part of something that is moving and working in the world. No matter where we are or what we are personally doing we are connected with all other Christians. Hopefully by the time you read this grass has been exposed to sunlight and daffodils and tulips are beginning to escape their winter imprisonment. Take a moment to think back to April 15th and think about how disappointed you may have been about not being able to worship with others that day. Please take a moment to pray for Jesus' church; for all those who are unable to experience the joy worshipping with others.

Notes on some upcoming opportunities:

- Wednesday June 6th we will begin our summer mid-week worship services. This year we will be doing something a little different. We will hold services in the chapel at 6:30 and we will be using a series of short videos to spur discussion. This will replace the traditional sermon. Yes, we will still sing, pray and communion together but it will be, as it was in the past, an informal worship service. The service will be completely different from Sunday morning so join us for both! We will also be playing outdoor yard games after worship when the weather allows and enjoy popsicles as a treat. Who knows maybe we can sneak in a campfire or two!

- Are you someone who has always wanted to play around with art supplies but have been intimidated, thinking you have no talent? Or – are you an artist who wants to think about God using your talents? Do I have a course for you! Look for upcoming information on a four-week class on Art and Theology. We will be playing with art supplies as we look at four different scripture stories. This is a bible experience and not a bible study.
- Help me explore Inver Grove and South Saint Paul. I would love to walk with you and hear the stories of your neighborhood, favorite park or favorite streets in your “town”. Contact me and let’s make it happen!



MAY 2018

GREETINGS "WALK IN LOVE, AS CHRIST HAS LOVED US" Ephesians 5:2
WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,



We had our Spring Breakfast on April 14th at Timber Hills, even though it was snowing outside. Thank you to all who shared their personal stories of God's love. And to all who braved the elements outside to attend a piece of Spring inside. Our hearts were opened to God's light and love, so now we can flourish and grow as Spring comes. A special thanks to Elsie Johnson for our partnership with Timber Hills.

Nancy Todd & Dianna Houska

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Picnic June 12th at 6pm. Watch the bulletin board for more information and sign-up sheets.

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.

Book Club

We will meet on Tue. May 15th @ 6:30 pm. Books are available from Mindie Schussler. The book is "The Virgin Of Small Plains" by Nancy Pickard.

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. Now through May 23rd. We will be studying "Philippians: Jesus Our Joy". All are welcome.

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

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30-8:00 pm. Now through May 23rd. We are using the book "Living a Life of Balance: Women of Faith Study Guide Series."

Contact Pattie Rooney or Robin Ross for more info.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Spring Convention
May 4 & 5

Book Club
May 15th

Picnic
June 12th

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



Bethesda Missions

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

Mission Focus for May **NEIGHBORS MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE** Donation Report

Wow what a great response!! We sent a \$2,300 check to Neighbors for Minnesota Food Share. We also delivered 550# of groceries. This was an amazing 20% increase from a very good response last year. Jane McLagan also sold \$1050 worth of Burger Battle tickets. **Thanks to all for participating!**

Neighbors Inc. is a non-profit social-service agency located in South St. Paul MN, providing emergency assistance and supportive assistance programs to low-income community members in the northern Dakota County communities of Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Mendota, Sunfish Lake and Lilydale. Last year, volunteers gave more than 48,500 hours of their time in service to others. Join their volunteer team today! Call 651.306.2145 or email volunteer@neighborsmn.org to discuss the options available.

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

ILAG Guatemala Mission

Thank you for your support of our Guatemala mission. This year \$60,000 (after expenses) was raised in conjunction with the Guatemala Gala held on April 6th at Southview Country Club. Some of these funds will go toward the new women's center program. Ten young women (13-26) will eventually be living at the Lutheran Center, attending school in the area and learning technical skills at the Center. The program is for 3 years. Another way to support this program is by providing scholarships for the women.

Bethesda Neighborhood Parking Lot Celebration

Change your calendar!!! The Parking Lot Picnic date has been changed to the evening of **Wednesday, August 15th**! The change is due to weather considerations and a need for more time in planning this great event.

Watch for complete details to follow!

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

MAY 2018

Youth News



Wooddale Fun Zone - Skating

On Saturday May 12th, the 4th - 12th graders will be going skating at the Wooddale Fun Zone. There will be FREE Pizza at this event. Bring money for other snacks. This outing is \$10 for Bethesda members and \$13 for friends. We will meet at 6:30 pm at church.

Avenger Infinity War Movie

On Sunday May 20th the 9th through 12th graders will be going to see the Avenger Infinity War movie after church. It's free for Bethesda members and \$5 for friends. It will be at the Woodbury 10 theater. Bring money if you would like to purchase snacks.

Dates to
Remember:

- ◆ *May—Gerten's Card sales begin*
- ◆ *July 7th-14th Youth Mission Trip*
- ◆ *July 22-27 Youth Bible Camp*
- ◆ *August 2018 Relay For Life*

Friday Funday!

Come and join us for a Friday night of fun at Bethesda with several other area church. Friday, May 18th from 6-9:30 we will enjoy playing Gaga, worship together, playing others games and much more fun.

This event is free and is for 4th-12th graders.



Gerten's Gift Cards

How are your gardens coming along? Need more plants?

The youth will be selling Gerten's Gift cards in the Narthex on April 22nd, May 6th and May 13th.

Feel free to reach out to any of the youth or see Kim Burress if these dates don't work for you.

They are available in increments of \$25, \$50, & \$100. Gift cards will be available until the beginning of June.

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



Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Easter Egg Hunt. Fun was had by ALL!

May Sunday School

May 6th- No Sunday School

May 13th- Sunday School

May 20th- Sunday School BINGO the last day of class!

Hope you enjoy your summer!

Annual SWO Convention

May 4th and 5th 2018

This year's MATERIAL offering for the Convention **"IT'S ALL IN THE BAG"**

We will be collecting the following taxable items which will be given to the Valley Outreach District 834 Washington County Food Shelf:

Single wrapped roll of Toilet Paper

64oz Laundry Soap

Bar of Soap

Dish Soap

1 Roll of Paper Towels

Toothpaste & Shampoo (full size)

Monetary donations welcome also

There will be a box in the Narthex for any items you would like to donate.

Thank you for your help with this project.

Women of Bethesda



Basement Sale

Friday May 11th 8:00am to 6:00pm

Saturday May 12th 8:00am to 3:00pm



Bethesda Lutheran Church

2855 47th Street East

Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

651-451-1355

Treasurer's Report

March, 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	(\$18,693.85)
Capital	27,205.03
Mortgage Reduction	4,565.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	109.00
Dedicated Memorial	3,220.00
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
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	1,287.88
Youth Mission Trip	(126.63)
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,936.30
Youth Camp Travel Fund	1,097.09
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,721.13
Christian Care Fund	0.00
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Smores (Outreach)	3,033.77
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	65,606.39
Missions	3,863.50
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	3,214.94
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,737.51
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
New Sign Fund	6,901.00
Lenten Supper	0.00
Total All Funds	\$ 113,186.88

Statement of Activities	March	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 13,398.00	\$ 45,889.78
Loose	303.39	688.39
Adopt-A-Bill	93.10	143.10
Other General Fund	18.37	350.63
Thrivent Dollars	177.00	339.00
Preschool Rent	1,163.50	3,490.50
Fund Raisers	0.00	100.00
Coffee Fund	124.00	330.12
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 15,277.36	\$ 51,331.52
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 12,610.43	\$ 38,001.22
Non-Salary General & Administrative	2,988.40	4,329.46
Property	5,907.37	17,827.13
Worship And Music	0.00	162.56
Education	46.00	46.00
Youth	173.95	568.81
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:	\$ 21,726.15	\$ 60,935.18

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,876.22
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	421,244.13
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	10,133.00
Total Liabilities	\$433,253.35

Average monthly income needed to make 2018 budget:	\$ 18,320.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 15,277.36
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 17,110.51
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 20,311.73

May 2018

June Events: Sunday Worship—9:00am
 Wednesday Night Worship—6:30pm
 June 12th Women's Picnic



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm Executive Team 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Property Team	2 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	3 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg	4 Women's Spring Convention →	5
6 6th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Service* 10:00am ND Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service* Prepare for Basement Sale →	7 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	8 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	9 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00am Bible Study	11 Basement Sale →	12 6:30pm Youth Fun Zone
13 7th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service Clean Up Basement Sale →	14 6:30pm Boy Scouts	15 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Book Club	16 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg	18 6:00pm Friday Funday Synod Assembly →	19
20 Day of Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service* 10:00am Sunday School (Last Day) 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service Youth-Avenger Movie	21 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	22 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 5:45pm RFL Meeting	23 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm Confirmation Year End Party	24 10:00am Bible Study	25	26
27 The Holy Trinity (Summer Worship Schedule Begins) 9:00am Worship	28 Memorial Day	29 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	30	31 10:00am Bible Study		

May 2018 Birthdays



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Garrett Heltne	3 Ryan Lowell	4	5
6	7	8	9 James Petersen	10 Kimberly Burress	11 Clinton McLagan	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Dennis Anderson	21	22	23 Jaime Ross	24 Lucas Anderson	25	26
27 Cynthia Johnson Tyler Nelson Christian Delgado	28 Memorial Day	29	30 Renee Edmunds	31		

"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 Chapel, 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:

Francisco "Frank" Delgado, (brother-in-law of Amy Delgado) died April 1st

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

Jane Gustafson, 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, Christopher Johnson (son of Gary and Donna Johnson), Clarence and Lucille Sharrow, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neill, , Dorothy Nelson, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

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

Hospice:

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Brian Ginsbach (cousin of Ann Siegel), Ted Thorson (father of Randy Thorson), Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), Kelsey Breitkruetz, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan)