

May Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 9:00am Traditional Worship Service**
- 10:00am Sunday School**
- 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation**
- 11:00am Contemporary Worship Service**
- 6:00pm High School Youth Group**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, May 4

SWO Convention
9:30am Spring Clean Up

Sunday, May 5

4:00pm Guatemala Gala

Friday, May 17

8:00am-8:00pm Basement Sale

Saturday, May 18

8:00am-3:00pm Basement Sale

Saturday, May 18

10:00am—Youth Metropolis Park

Sunday, May 26

Summer Worship Schedule Begins

9:00am Worship

Wednesday, May 29

6:30pm Worship



Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. *Psalm 51:10*

What a blessing it is!

Bethesda Church has received a wonderful blessing in the way of a donation from Bruce and Nikki Matejka in memory of our Brother in Christ, Lee. After owning a food truck for a short time, Bruce and Nikki decided it wasn't the right direction for them and found they were now sitting with a large amount of inventory wondering what to do with it. They made the decision a good place for these to go, was the place Lee had made a home of for many years, Bethesda. So last week Bruce made a delivery to us of bins full of takeout containers of many sizes, napkins, small plates, bowls, cups and some various others items. This is such a blessing for us and our kitchen. The shelves are full! And, we have been told there is more to come!



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Beginning April 10th through May 29th we will be studying "Jesus' Final Week". As we study these events of this final week in order, we will find a bit of perspective from each of the four Gospel writers. Gaining insight and wisdom from following the path to the cross, from Palm Sunday to Good Friday to Easter- the path that Jesus, King of Kings and suffering servant walked for us.

For more information contact Sharon Stanefski.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Book Club

The next book club meeting will be on May 21st @ 5:30. We will be discussing the book "The Secret Keeper" by Kate Morton.

Women's Picnic Potluck

This year's picnic potluck will be on June 11th with food being ready to serve at 6:00 pm. Watch the Women's bulletin board for a sign-up sheet in the near future.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

May

Book Club
May 21st - 5:30 p.m.

June

Women's Potluck Picnic
June 11th - 6:00

Women's Ministry Board Members

Co presidents:

Co-vice presidents:

Secretary:
Naomi Dorau

Treasurer:
Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:
Naomi Dorau
Sharon Stanefski

Boutique spaces:
Lynette Thorson

Cookies for Shut-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Dannielle Coursolle

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

ReFresh & ReNew Chairs:
Cheryl Hilber
Robin Ross

Contact Information

Womenofbethesda@gmail.com





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!! Neighbors' raised 98% of their goal of 325,000 pounds/dollars. We sent a \$2,100 check to Neighbors for Minnesota Food Share. We also delivered 400# of groceries. **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.

- Serves more than 500 families each month
- Provides clients with a week's worth of food during each visit (about 110 lbs. per family)
- Helps clients find ways to use foods they may not be familiar with or wouldn't normally try via the monthly **Menu Makers program**

ILAG Guatemala Gala-4:00-8:00pm

The 6th Annual Guatemala Gala will be held on Sunday, May 5 at Southview Country Club in West St. Paul. The focus for this year's Gala will be the Colegio Luterano Agustino de Guatemala (CLAG), a primary school run by the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG), our companion partners in Guatemala. This Lutheran school has served children in this marginalized area since 2000, keeping them out of gangs and offering opportunities for the future. The four teachers and 100 students are doing great things and were recently recognized for excellence by the Guatemala Department of Education. Since its founding in 1991, ILAG has always been about ministering to people living in poverty in Guatemalan society, particularly the indigenous poor. From the lowlands of Petén in the north to the ravines of Guatemala City, ILAG works to make God's grace known to all. Currently, the Lutheran church in Guatemala has more than 2,000 members in 17 congregations. See Cheryl Hilber for ticket information.

Thank you for your support of our Guatemala mission.

Bethesda Neighborhood Parking Lot Celebration

Mark your calendar!!! The Parking Lot Picnic date is being planned for **Wednesday, August 7th!** We truly want this to be a church-wide event. Maybe your group can sponsor a particular activity at this outreach celebration. The whole neighborhood will be invited. Let's get creative; let's work together.
Planning meeting- Thursday, May 2nd- 6:30pm; lounge area

Sunday School

Sundays, 10:00 - 10:45am

Summertime!

Summer is quickly approaching, and that means long days with no school ahead! How are you planning to spend your summer? Are you going to Wapo or Ox Lake Bible Camp? Check out the VBS page for more information about the exciting changes coming to VBS this year! We hope that you stick around Bethesda this summer, even though there is no Sunday School time. Summertime worship services are the best!

End of Year Party May 19th

Join us for a celebration of this year in Sunday School! We will be playing the ever popular Bible BINGO, have great prizes, snacks, and lots of fun. May 19th, 10:00 - 10:45am.



Upcoming Sunday School Schedule

May 5th: Solomon is a Wise King

May 12th: Widow's Oil

May 19th: End of Year Bible

BETHESDA YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS



May Metropolis Park

We're going to the Metropolis in Eau Claire, WI! May 18th, leave church at 10am, return by 6pm. Water Park, Trampoline Park, Laser Tag, Arcade, Go Karts! Cost is \$25 for members, \$50 for nonmembers. Sign up by May 15th. Waiver needed. Open to 9th - 12th graders, or 4th grade and up with parent chaperone.

Gerten's Gift Cards for Sale

Spring is right around the corner! Support Bethesda youth ministries by buying a Gerten's gift card. Youth will be selling between services April 14th, April 28th, and May 5th. Cards will be available until early June.

Mission Trip Shares are back!

Youth will be selling shares again this year until we leave for our trip. Shares are \$20, and are a great way to support our youth as we raise funds for our mission trip to Grand Rapids, MI.

Senior Spotlight: Jennifer Burress

Church Activities: Sound Booth Technician, 7x VBS Volunteer, 4x Mission Trip Participant, 13x Camp/Family Camp Participant, Volunteer Horse Wrangler at Ox Lake, Church Council Representative



Future Plans: Minnesota State Mankato, majoring in Graphic Design

Contact the Youth Team!

KIM BURRESS
(651) 260-3922
kburress@msn.com

BETH MCCABE
(651) 315-4634
bmccabe088@gmail.com

LAURA O'DONNELL
(651) 276-6776
lauraodonnell2965@gmail.com

**JUNE 28TH
JULY 19TH
AUGUST 16TH**

VBS 2019!

VBS will look new and exciting this year! VBS will be spread out to be once a month. This will keep the excitement for this incredible ministry high all summer! Here are our VBS dates for this year:

June 28th, July 19th, August 16h

All days run 9:00am - 12:30pm

**Join us at a Volunteer Informational Meeting
on May 13th, at 6:30pm**



**Saturday, May 4
10:00am**

The property committee is looking for helpers for our Spring yard and grounds clean up. Please bring rakes, gloves, pruners or whatever you feel will make yardwork easier!



As another choir season comes to an end, we thank you for your continued support. During the summer the choir will sing the second Sunday of each month. This would be a great opportunity to try the choir. We will rehearse Sunday morning at 8:20.

There are also opportunities for you or someone you know to provide music on Sunday mornings. There is a signup sheet on the choir office door. The choir office is located next to the main office. If you have any questions please contact Ann Siegel at annieseegs@gmail.com



In Gratitude

I would like to thank Pastor Maggie and all of my Bethesda Family who helped make this year's Lenten Journey and Easter Service especially meaningful for me. Thank you to all who contributed and worked to assemble our Lenten Devotional. Worship services were enhanced by inspiring music and many worked to provide food and fellowship at Lenten dinners and Sunday hospitality. The chapel was made ready for Maundy Thursday prayer vigil and the sanctuary, narthex and lounge continue to be decorated for us. Altar Guild and Communion Assistants regularly serve us as do our ushers. Thank you for any other area of participation, but especially for sharing your faith stories. You all are a blessing to me!

*Love in Christ
Elsie Johnson*



May 2019

June Events:

June 11—6:00pm Women's Potluck Picnic

VBS—June 28—9:00am-12:30pm (July 19th and August 16th)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg. (Planning Mtg. for Parking Lot Celebration) 6:30pm Cannon Brass		SWD Convention 9:30am Spring Clean UP 6:00pm Dakota Square Dancers
5 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Service* (Special Music Cannon Brass) 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 11:00am Worship Service* 4:00pm Guatemala Gala 5:30pm Cub Scouts	6 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	7 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Property Team	8 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation	9 10:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Cannon Brass Concert	10	11
12 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 11:00am Worship Service 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm H.S. Youth Group 6:30pm Girl Scouts Set Up for Garage Sale	13 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm VBS Volunteer Informational Mtg	14 10:00am Prayer Group	15 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation	16 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg 6:30pm Cannon Brass	17 8:00am-8:00pm Basement Sale	18 8:00am-3:00pm Basement Sale 10:00am Youth Metropolis Park Cub Scout Bike Sale/Parking Lot
19 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Service* 10:00am Sunday School (Last Day) 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 11:00am Worship Service* 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm H.S. Youth Group 6:30pm Girl Scouts	20 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	21 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Book Club	22 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation	23 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Cannon Brass	24	25
26 6th Sunday of Easter (Summer Worship Begins) 9:00am Worship Service	27 Memorial Day	28 10:00am Prayer Group	29 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Worship Service	30 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Cannon Brass	31	



May 2019 Birthdays

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

We would like to thank our Bethesda Family for their kind words, sympathy and prayers during the passing of our mother, Lorna Hohle. Also a special thank you to the ladies that helped with preparing, serving and cleaning up for the luncheon. Your kindness is much appreciated. *Jennifer Tiedman & David Hohle.*

Dear Members of Bethesda,
I want to thank you for your prayers, cards, and kindness the past weeks since the loss of my mom. It is appreciated more than you know. *Ann Siegel*

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone during the time of Tom's illness and death. All the prayers, the hugs, the good wishes, the cards, those who served lunch, made desserts and so many more were so wonderful and greatly appreciated. Because of the generosity of Bethesda members and others, we will be sharing the donations between Neighbors and a project for Bethesda to be determined. *Sally and family.*

Treasurer's Report

March, 2019

Report explanation: This report is split into 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 box below that lists the current liabilities and corresponding balances. The box below that shows the average income needed to meet budget as well as the average monthly income and expense to date.

The general fund income exceeded expenses \$709.72 in March

Receipts to the

mortgage reduction fund no longer cover the mortgage payment resulting in a negative balance of \$1,587.81

All Funds	Balance
General Fund	(\$32,855.98)
Capital	28,464.41
Mortgage Reduction	(1,587.81)
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	90.00
Dedicated Memorial	3,171.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,186.23
Garden Party	241.59
Special Appeals In/Out	12,582.14
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	908.20
Youth Mission Trip	603.59
Youth Faith Based Activities	944.18
Youth Camp Travel Fund	1,394.56
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	1,428.78
Christian Care Fund	0.00
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Smores (Outreach)	2,624.60
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	67,466.39
Missions	624.75
Tech Team	344.65
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	4,351.29
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	813.84
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
New Sign Fund	7,156.00
Sound System Fun	6,575.00
Youth Room Repairs	5,288.09
Lenten Supper	0.00
Total All Funds	\$ 116,649.45

Statement of Activities	March	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 15,417.64	\$ 36,184.90
Loose	468.00	956.25
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	0.00
Other General Fund	46.61	132.41
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	353.00
Preschool Rent	3,350.00	7,350.00
Fund Raisers	100.00	200.00
Coffee Fund	169.16	424.66
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 19,551.41	\$ 45,601.22
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 11,789.90	\$ 35,625.17
Non-Salary General & Administrative	1,430.40	3,805.44
Property	4,731.29	14,683.25
Worship And Music	766.85	832.50
Education	51.25	51.25
Youth	72.00	394.85
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:	\$ 18,841.69	\$ 55,392.46
Liabilities		Balance
Payroll Withholding		\$ 1,770.32
Thrivent Financial Mortgage		403,878.61
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)		8,273.00
Total Liabilities		\$ 413,921.93
Average monthly income needed to make 2019 budget:	\$	19,018.33
Current month General Fund income:	\$	19,551.41
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$	15,200.41
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$	18,464.15

"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. , Feed My Starving Children and Mobile Meals.

For our sisters and brothers in the *Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala* and for our companion partner congregations *Milagro de Dios*, and *Living Joy*

Prayer concerns (other than the long term care and hospice list) for the bulletin will be updated every two weeks. If you have added someone to the list and want them to remain on the list, please let Kay know during office hours.

We pray for the family and friends of:

Thomas Muraski, died April 2nd

Lorna Hohle, died March 24th

Larry Krech (nephew of Fran Delia), died March 13th

Dorothy Nelson, (mother of Ann Siegel) died March 9th

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

Jill Lewis, Jane Walker, Donna Johnson, Kim Burrell, John Sargent, Tom Classen, Emily Willette, Clarence and Lucille Sharrow, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neill, Kris Jore, Julie Swedberg, Emersyn Kay Johnson,

For those with health concerns:

Sharon Nelson

Hospice:

Carol Evenson

Prayers of Thanksgiving: