

**November Bell Echoes
Bethesda Lutheran Church**



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

9:00am Traditional Worship Service

10:00am Sunday School

10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation

10:30am Contemporary Worship Service

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday

November 3

Turn Clocks back 2:00am(Sunday)

4:15 Youth Escape Room!

Tuesday

November 6

GENERAL ELECTION

Friday

November 9

9:00am Prep/Set Up for Boutique

Saturday

November 10

9:00am-3:00pm HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Wednesday

November 21

6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship

(Pie following Worship)

Thursday

November 22

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Sunday

November 25

No Sunday School

No 6th/7th Grad Confirmation

ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00am THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

From Pastor Maggie

In a little over a week the mid-term elections will be over. No more ads blaring out the inconsistencies and the hypocrisies of every person running for political office. In eight days we will all be expected to forget about all the negative advertisements and support those who will be elected. After being told for months not to trust (fill in the blank) we will be asked to have confidence in their political leadership and expect that they have the general public's best interest in mind.

The experts in the field of political campaigning say that negative ads against political opponents get positive results for candidates that use that strategy. In other words, negative messages, partial and blatant lies against opponents, work to the advantage of the one telling the exaggeration or lie. These experts also say this is nothing new; it has been going on in campaigning since the very beginning of our democracy. This may be true but until very recently we were not deluged with negative messages for twenty-four hours a day seven days a week through TV, texts, emails, radio, pod casts, internet news, printed materials, signs, etc. for months on end.

As a Christian I do have to ask myself the question – just because something works does that mean it is right or good in the eyes of God? You see words matter. What I say and how I say it makes a difference. Listening to negative and destructive language for hours on end influences our own thoughts, how we perceive others around us and impacts our own speech. Many people have come to me saying they feel more 'down' than usual or more irritable. Others have told me that they have been dismayed at some unkind and harsh words they have spoken when discussing politics with friends or family members. I have seen an increase in disrespectful behavior in public places in the name of righteousness. Truth be told, these words hurled constantly at us to change our voting behavior have done more than that - they have changed us!

So what are we to do? Vote and thank God that the extensive negative ads are over for at least a couple of years? Yes and no. Yes – vote! No - don't brush aside what has been going on and pretend that all this negativity and suspicion has had no impact on us. It has. After all, words matter. Let us pray that God will heal us and bring us to a place of wholeness and peace.

Just as negative words shape us negatively, words of hope and encouragement shape us into people of hope and promise. I believe this is why scripture often calls on us to sing and shout praises to the Lord; build up each other with words of encouragement and to remind one another of the fulfilled promises of God so we may have everlasting hope. What if we were willing to try this as an experiment; every day, for one month, we wake up and praise God for one thing God has blessed us with, we tell one person a promise that God has fulfilled and we speak one word of hope to someone. Although we can't change how others speak to us or at us we can decide how we will speak to others. Let's go and change the world with our words!

Things to look forward to –

Thanksgiving worship and pie - Wednesday November 21 – Be thinking about how God has blessed you with this past year.

Advent men's and woman's spirituality group - Monday evenings 6:30 – 8:00 pm December 3,10 & 17.

BETHESDA YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS



Holiday Boutique

Youth will be making and selling crafts at the Bethesda Holiday Boutique. The Boutique will be on November 10th. Please contact Beth or Kim to sign up to sell at the Boutique. Proceeds will go towards camp and mission trips.

November Escape Room!

Face off against your church friends in an interesting Escape Room twist! Spy vs Spy Escape Room is actually two rooms competing against each other in a race to finish first. Registration is limited to the first 10 people who sign up (chaperones included). November 3rd, meet at Bethesda at 4:15pm, will return by 6:30pm.

We're Going to Michigan!

The 2019 Youth Mission Trip will be to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Trip will run from July 6th - 12th. We will be attending a Group Week of Hope, which focuses on lasting community partnerships in Grand Rapids. Sign up with a \$50 deposit by November 18th. Contact Beth for more information.

Youth to Host a Community Meal Event

The Bethesda Youth are partnering with S'mores to host a Community Meal for all those in the Bethesda Community. Join us for an afternoon meal, and Advent activity on December 2nd at 11am.

Contact the Youth Team!

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

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

JENNY BURRESS
(651) 964-5375
jenny.burress19@gmail.com

Sundays, 10:00 - 10:30am

Is it Too Early to Think About Christmas?

October/November/December is an exciting time of year, with lots of events happening. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas are all exciting times to be sharing as a family.

Here at Bethesda, the Children's Christmas Program is right over the horizon **(December 16th at the combined service)**.

As things start to get busier, I encourage families to spend time talking to each other about these special times. What is your child most thankful for? What is their favorite Christmas decoration? What part of the Christmas story is most special to you? Share your answers as a family and take time to appreciate all of the special things this season brings.



Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

November 4th: Sarah's Son

November 11th: Jacob and Esau

November 18th: Christmas Program Rehearsal

November 25th: No Sunday School, Thanksgiving Break



Bethesda Missions

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

The Giving Tree

“The man with two coats should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.” Luke 3:11

Give to the missions of Feed My Starving Children, Neighbor's Inc. or Los Rosas our Guatemalan Partner Church.

Please stop by The Giving Tree in the narthex to choose an ornament tag (or 2 or 3) which will state a way you could **give a specific gift to our missions** for this Christmas Season. The Giving Tree will be filled with mission gift ideas for Bethesda's community and global mission projects. Take an ornament tag from The Giving Tree and purchase the named items or give the donation listed by Sunday, Dec. 9th. Checks can be placed in the offering with the ornament tag attached. Other gift donations can be placed in the baskets under the Christmas tree. Please place ornament tags separately in the smaller basket under the tree.

“God will give you much so that you can give away much, ... they will break out into thanksgiving and praise to God for your help.”
2 Cor. 9:11

Advent Memorial Tree-Lighting Service

The fifteenth annual **Memorial Tree-Lighting Service** will be held at 10:00 am Sunday, December 2nd. These Advent services will give us the opportunity to remember past loved ones in a beautiful way. The donations given in memorial will be represented in the beautiful white lights on our Christmas trees. All of the names of those remembered will be read during the service and listed in the bulletin. The donations will be given to Bethesda's supported missions (listed on the top right of this page). What a wonderful way to both “remember” loved ones and to help others. **Memorial donation checks and the Memorial Form can be placed in the offering each Sunday until November 25th** or mailed to the church office. The Memorial Lights Form can be found in the Sunday bulletins. Please indicate the names of those you are remembering, indicate your own name, and write “Memorial Lights” in the memo area of any check given. All names and memorial checks must be into the church by the deadline of Sunday, November 25th.

Advent Memorial-Lights Service

Our Memorial Tree-Lighting will be held Sunday, December 2nd.

This Advent service will again give us the opportunity to remember departed friends and family members in a beautiful way and will allow us to *support Bethesda's supported missions.*

Memorial donations may be placed in the service offering or mailed to the church office during November.

Please indicate the names of those you are remembering, indicate your own name, and write the check to Bethesda Lutheran Church with "Memorial Lights" in the memo area of any check given. All checks must be in the church office by Sunday, November 25th.



Memorial for _____

Given by _____

*Each dollar in memorial donations will be symbolized by a light on our sanctuary Christmas trees and will be given to our mission - **BETHESDA'S SUPPORTED MISSIONS.** Please attach your check.*

Mark your Calendar!!

November 10, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*The Holiday Heritage Boutique
is just around the corner.*

*Come and enjoy hot caramel rolls and
delicious turkey wild rice soup.*



*There's plenty of crafts and other things to buy.
The bake sale will offer a variety of goodies.*

Donations for the Bake Sale may be dropped off at

Church:

*If possible, each item should be packaged on a
paper plate, slipped into a zip lock bag, labeled with a
descriptive name and noted if nuts are used.*



Friday, November 9th

Or

Saturday November 10th, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.



Council Corner

(Members: Pastor Maggie; Theresa Staehnke (Pres), Robin Ross (VP), Cheryl Hilber (Sec), Nathan Schussler, Rick Coursolle, Dawn Sargent, Ryan Ihle, Jenny Burress)

Grant writer: We are looking for a volunteer to do grant writing for funds to alleviate some of our debt. There are many grants available. If you have a skill for grant writing or wish to learn, please let us know.

Daycare Lease update: We are renegotiating the lease with Mi Familia to allow them to utilize other areas of the church property for a fair increase in rent. This not only will help them with their needs and growth plans, but will also help us with our budget. Negotiations will include costs of utilities and snow removal. A special thanks to Cheryl Hilber and Ryan Ihle for heading up this important process.

Damage to youth room: Some major cleanup has been done. Thanks for the volunteers who have done the work so far. We are working with our insurance carrier to determine what our limits will be to start working on the rest. The door is blocked off until remediation needs are determined.

Connections with each other: We have been brainstorming ideas on how we can connect – and have fun – with each other. Some ideas generated are movie night, game night, bonfires, comedy club or theater outings, and of course – potlucks! Feel free to give us some of your ideas also.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Women of Bethesda donated funds to cover the cost of a new garbage disposal for the kitchen.

Mark Engen and his crew have volunteered numerous hours of work to trim trees, paint the smokestack, fix the bell tower and replace the roof on the garage. We are so thankful for your skills, knowledge and time.

Advent Service: In order to reconnect and take part in special services during Advent, we will have **ONE Worship Service at 10:00 effective 12/1/18-12/30/18**

Treasurer's Report

September, 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	(\$25,308.38)
Capital	26,647.82
Mortgage Reduction	1,518.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	0.00
Dedicated Memorial	3,376.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,166.23
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	(64.84)
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	1,175.88
Youth Mission Trip	0.00
Youth Faith Based Activities	393.13
Youth Camp Travel Fund	1,394.56
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	1,786.29
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	66,536.39
Missions	4,289.75
Tech Team	344.65
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	3,709.31
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	233.88
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
New Sign Fund	7,066.00
Lenten Supper	0.00
Total All Funds	\$ 102,281.64

Statement of Activities	September	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 16,752.78	\$ 123,221.51
Loose	405.00	2,459.40
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	143.10
Other General Fund	138.14	2,058.33
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	939.00
Preschool Rent	1,163.50	10,561.50
Fund Raisers	2,607.98	5,335.76
Coffee Fund	22.00	728.72
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 21,089.40	\$ 145,447.32
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 12,542.94	\$ 110,443.45
Non-Salary General & Administrative	980.85	10,541.50
Property	1,822.38	37,795.03
Worship And Music	0.00	1,338.83
Education	117.17	392.42
Youth	0.00	939.69
Smores	0.00	214.59
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
Total General Fund Expenses:	\$ 15,463.34	\$ 161,665.51

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,750.92
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	412,624.25
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	9,203.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 423,578.17

Average monthly income needed to make 2018 budget:	\$ 18,320.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 21,089.40
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 16,160.81
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 17,962.83



December Events: ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:00am in DECEMBER

December 1st 9:00am Putting Up the Lights

December 2nd 11:00am Youth Advent Dinner

December 11th Women's Advent Gathering

December 16th Sunday School Christmas Program

(Cookies and Caroling after Worship)

December 24th 4:30pm and 10:30pm Worship Services

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg. 6:30pm Cannon Brass	2	3  Turn Clocks Back at 2:00am (Sunday)
4 All Saints Sunday 9:00am Worship Service * 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service* 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	5 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	6 6:00am-10:00pm General Election 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm Executive Team 6:30pm Property Team	7 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm 10th-12th Grade Youth Group 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Cannon Brass	9 9:00am SET UP for Boutique	10 9:00am -3:00pm HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
11 25th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Book Club	14 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm 10th-12th Grade Youth Group 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg. 6:30pm Cannon Brass Wreath Delivery →	16	17
18 26th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service* 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service* 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	19 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	20 10:00am Prayer Group Bell Echoes DUE	21 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Worship Service (Pie after Worship)	22 THANKSGIVING DAY 	23	24
25 Christ the King Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am NO Sunday School 10:00am NO 6th/7th Grade Confirmation 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 4:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scouts	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27 10:00am Prayer Group	28 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm 8th/9th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm 10th-12th Grade Youth Group 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Cannon Brass	30	



2018 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Marsha Morgan Louis Seliga Lucille Sharrow	2 Robin Ross	3 Turn Clocks Back at 2:00am (Sunday) 
4 Alysha Holmgren	5	6 Sharon Stanefski	7 Jordan Geiselhart	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Joy Grimsrud	16	17
18	19	20	21 David Johnson Kim Pankonin	22 THANKSGIVING DAY 	23	24
25 Scott Burress	26 Heidi Anderson	27	28	29	30 Heidi O'Donnell	

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS There is a great need at Neighbors for personal care items. There are four baskets in the narthex through November 4th for donations, i.e. shampoo, conditioner, deodorant for both gals and guys, bar soap, shower gel, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, feminine products, etc. It would be nice if we could fill the baskets to overflowing. It shouldn't be too hard as they are small baskets. Thanks a lot!!

"OUR PRAYERS"

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

Romans 12:12



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*

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:

Ronald Nelson, died October 19, 2018

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

Claudia Steiner (sister of Sharon Stanefski), Jill Lewis, Jane Walker, Donna Johnson, Kim Burress, John Sargent, Jane Gustafson, Tom Muraski, Tom Classen, Emily Willette, Clarence and Lucille Sharrow, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neill, Dorothy Nelson, Kris Jore, Julie Swedberg, Emersyn Kay Johnson, Larry Krech (nephew of Fran Della),

For those with health concerns:

Hospice:

Carol Evenson

Prayers of Thanksgiving: