

August Bell Echoes Bethesda Lutheran Church



†WORSHIP SCHEDULE†

9:00am Worship

9:25am Sunday School

10:30am Contemporary Worship

†SUMMERWORSHIP 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†

Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church

2855 47th Street East

Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076-1138

Office Phone: 651.451.1355

Office Fax: 651.451.1356 (Please call first)

Web site: <http://www.bethesdalutheranchurch.org>

E-mail: bethesdalutheran@msn.com



Bethesda Lutheran Church ELCA

August 2016 Pastor's Page ***Crisis and the Promise of Daily Bread***

Each day as I drive from home to Bethesda, I enjoy seeing the fields lush and green with crops. The corn particularly catches my attention as it now stands 6 feet tall. The first corn on the cob of the season is delicious! But it also gives me reason to pause. Last weekend's Gospel reading was the story of Jesus teaching his disciples to pray. Part of that prayer included this petition.



"Give us this day our daily bread," we pray - and we trust that God will provide. For many people in Guatemala, corn makes tortillas so that people can have that promise of Daily Bread. But sometimes nature and weather do not cooperate. Sometimes flooding wipes out a crop or drought means no harvest. In Guatemala, many people are farmers, and Milagro de Dios, our partner congregation through ILAG, is very much in a rural setting. Our brothers and sisters count on the corn crop to provide their daily bread.

2016, unfortunately, has brought drought, and the lack of rainfall has created a crisis. When people use all the corn they have to make daily bread for today, there is nothing left for tomorrow, or for next year's crop. And when all the corn has been used to make their daily tortillas, what do they do then? They look to the providence of God - and I think God looks to us to be daily bread to our neighbors.

Because of crop failure, ILAG has used up emergency funds to help people eat for today. What is needed is both food for today and seed corn for next year's crop. I received an email just last week from Tom Lee who was instrumental in helping to start our partnership with Milagro de Dios. He invited us a partner congregations from Minnesota to come together; joining forces to raise funds to meet the needs of the people in Las Rosas.

Here is the email I received.

"I hope you all remember about 5 years ago when there were huge floods that wiped out the corn crops across Guatemala. Well, no floods this year. They are having severe drought and there are virtually no crops. Our friends at Milagro de Dios need our help.

In addition to the \$1,000 (\$333 per congregation) that we send for general support, there is a need for about \$2,000. This will buy 2 bags of corn for each family to consume in the coming months and 1 bag of corn seed to plant next growing season.

Let's see if we can get this raised in the next few weeks to help them. Thanks."

Our corn here is already six feet tall and we hope for a bumper crop. ILAG tells us that \$50 buys a bag of seed corn. While we can't really *send* a bushel or a bag, our people can *buy* a bushel or a bag. As a partner congregation of ILAG we are invited to seed the future so our friends can also enjoy the security of daily bread. Harvest will come soon enough for us! Let's see if together we can make planting season a season of hope for our friends in Guatemala! Over the next two to three weeks we are inviting you to contribute to this special cause. Simply put a check in the offering made out to Bethesda and in the memo line: **Emergency Corn Fund**. Together with Amazing Grace and Living Joy, I believe we can truly be the hands and feet of Christ to our brothers and sisters who need our help. We are able to step up to what it means to really partner together the family of God.

Thank you for helping to sow seeds of goodness in the lives of others
In partnership with you,

Pastor Terry d. Nordheim

Pastor Terry



August Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays 9:30am—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY

Wednesdays 6:30pm—MIDWEEK “WORSHIP at the ROCK”

**Please Note: Aug. 3 Midweek Worship
Closing Worship for VBS
Dinner: 5:45pm
Worship: 6:30pm**

**Aug. 10: NO Midweek Worship
(Pastor Terry & Cathy are on vacation)**



**Vacation Bible School
Olympics 2016: Bethesda
Join us for VBS Olympics! July 31-Aug. 3**

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” —Hebrews 12:1

VBS Events

**Sunday, July 31: 5:45pm; God teaches us KINDNESS! Program and Ice Cream social.
Monday, August 1: 9:00am – 12:00pm; God teaches us PATIENCE!
Tuesday, August 2: 9:00am – 12:00pm; God teaches us GRATITUDE!
Wednesday, August 3: 9:00am – 12:00pm; God teaches us LOVE!
Wednesday, August 3: 5:45pm – 7:45pm; Dinner provided with worship program to follow.**

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

GOD'S CONTAGIOUS LOVE

AS FOR US, WE CANNOT HELP SPEAKING ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD. ACTS 4:20

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

We are very excited to be your co-presidents this year and already have some incredible women committed to joining us! Our theme this year is from the May retreat--Contagious Love! It seems to fit so well with our feelings about the upcoming year and all God has planned for the Women of Bethesda.

We are especially looking to YOU for ideas...think wide & far, dream & imagine what you would like to see the

women's group do. What do you want our group to look like? What makes you want to share God's Contagious Love? Join us on August 9, 6:30 for a general meeting. Please bring your ideas and prayerfully consider joining the women's board. We can always use more help.

Sisters in Christ,

Cheryl Hilber & Robin Ross



Women's Ministry Board Members

Co presidents:
Cheryl Hilber &
Robin Ross

Co-vice presidents:
Dianna Houska,
Nancy Todd

Secretary
Jane Walker

Treasurer
Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:
Renee DeSchane

Boutique spaces
Lynette Thorson

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Dawn Sargent
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Wednesday morning 9:30 bible study will start again in October. Watch for details next month or contact Sharon Stanefski to join this group.
- Book Club will resume in September, date to be determined, book decided and picked in August. We would like to continue to use "Book in Bag" through the public library where we receive 10 copies. If you would like a copy of the book contact Robin Ross. Typically we meet on a Tuesday at 6:30 for discussion.



Contact Information

Cheryl Hilber 651-428-8949 hilber@aol.com
Robin Ross 651-210-5472 robin.ross@icloud.com
Womenofbethesda@gmail.com

Watch for emails regarding upcoming events!

WHAT'S NEXT

General Board meeting to plan events: Tuesday, August 9, 6:30pm

Women's Fall Kick Off Event:

Tuesday, September 13, 5:30 dinner, see signup sheet on bulletin board for more details.



Bethesda Missions

ILAG Guatemalan Mission

Neighbor's Inc.

Feed My Starving Children

Mission Trip Scholarship Fund

Mission Focus for August

Milagro de Dios- partner congregation in Guatemala

Guatemala drought leaves hundreds of thousands hungry. *Ever since 2012, the rains have been weak and insufficient.* Thousands of people in southern Guatemala are suffering from a prolonged drought after years of below-average rainfall. The drought has now resulted in hundreds of thousands of people being left hungry. The situation is particularly bad in the "dry corridor", a region in the south of the country which extends into neighboring Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras. Guatemala normally expects plentiful rains between May and October - but the dry corridor endures a highly variable climate. The current drought issues started in 2012 when the rains were erratic and vastly below average. Since then, the traditional vegetable crops, such as corn, have not grown properly due to the lack of water.

Children suffering from severe malnutrition - whose symptoms include dangerously low weight, dehydrated skin and hair loss - have been admitted to the hospital.

It is estimated that approximately 2.8 million people are affected by the drought, with 900,000 at risk of malnutrition and in need of immediate support. Despite the desperate situation, neither the government nor international aid agencies have sufficient resources to support those in need, amid estimations that only about half of them are receiving support.

Deforestation, coupled with torrential downpours from tropical weather such as hurricanes, has allowed vast amounts of precious top soil to be washed away, and reduced the ability of the land to capture water. Without this being addressed, the crops that have been growing for decades will continue to fail - even if the rains return. Source: Al Jazeera and agencies.

Bethesda will be collecting donations for drought relief for Milagro de Dios- please help!

Let's get ready for Bethesda's Mission Sunday on September 11- God's Work, Our Hands. We will be packaging laundry detergent for food shelf clients. Donations of dry laundry detergent would be appreciated!!!

Youth News at Bethesda



AUGUST 2016

Upcoming Youth Events

Upcoming Confirmation Events:

- ◆ *Service hour forms are due to Kim. Forms are available on the Youth Board.*
- ◆ *Faith papers / projects are due. Please schedule a time to talk to Pastor Terry.*



Now that everyone is back from the various camps and the mission trip, it's time to have a little fun before school starts again. See all of the upcoming events and sign up soon!

VBS July 31st - August 3rd - Come and help with games, crafts, songs and more!

Relay for Life, August 5th - 4:00-Midnight. The Youth's help is needed to sell lap trackers. Also please come and walk in support of those who had/have cancer.

Northview Pool Party - Wednesday, August 10th from 7-9 p.m. Sign-up on the Youth Board. We can meet at church at 6:30 if you need and carpool.

Youth Lock-in Wednesday, August 17th. Spend an over-night with Beth for some fun and games. Sign up on the Youth Board.

Sign-up sheets for these events can be found on the Youth Board.

Congratulations Graduate!

We are very sorry that we omitted Brittany Young from our list of graduates last month. Brittany graduated from South St. Paul High School. Congratulations and good luck in your future endeavors.

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

Treasurer's Report

June, 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	(23,388.16)
Capital	21,203.78
Parking Lot	121,877.07
Mortgage Reduction	1,805.28
Sunday School	861.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	0.00
Dedicated Memorial	16,725.85
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	2,388.39
Luther Dell Scholarships	1,377.14
Hohle Scholarship	97.25
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,856.70
Youth Room Equipment	0.00
Christian Care Fund	300.00
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	91,612.00
Missions	2,220.50
Tech Team	99.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	2,083.86
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,377.34
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,348.77
Special Appeal - Tax Assessment	0.00
Total All Funds	261,120.97

Statement of Activities	June	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 13,606.00	\$ 93,977.00
Loose	221.00	1,629.95
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	1,208.05
Other General Fund	291.83	5,975.32
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	963.00
Preschool Rent	875.00	4,745.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	4,300.00
Coffee Fund	123.00	822.46
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 15,116.83	\$ 113,620.78
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 13,533.54	\$ 78,749.87
Non-Salary General & Administrative	2,189.70	8,994.81
Property	2,288.34	23,372.15
Worship And Music	449.30	1,561.82
Education	146.00	423.96
Youth	0.00	549.57
Outreach	0.00	377.80
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
Total General Fund Expenses:	\$ 18,606.88	\$ 114,029.98

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 2,602.41
Mission Investment Mort.	445,049.26
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	13,388.00
Total Liabilities	\$461,039.67

August 2016

September Events: September 7th Choir Rehearsal (6:30pm)
 September 10th Booya and Bake Sale
 September 11th Mission/Fall Kick Off Sunday (9:30am)
 September 18th Fall Worship Schedule Begins
 (9:00am and 10:30am)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00-12:00noon VBS	2 9:00-12:00noon VBS	3 9:00-12:00noon VBS 5:45-7:30pm VBS Dinner & Worship	4 10:00am NO Bible Study Pastor Terry & Cathy on Vacation	5 4:00pm Relay for Life at Fleming Field	6
7 12th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service*	8 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Quilting B's	9 10:00am NO Prayer Group	10 6:30pm NO Worship Service 7:00pm Northview Pool Party	11 10:00am NO Bible Study	12	13
14 13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service	15 6:30pm Boy Scouts 1:00pm Quilting B's	16 10:00am NO Prayer Group	17 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service Youth Lock-In	18 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg	19	20
21 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service*	22 6:30pm Boy Scouts	23 10:00am Prayer Group Bell Echoes Articles DUE	24 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service	25 10:00am Bible Study	26	27
28 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service	29 6:30pm Boy Scouts	30 10:00am Prayer Group	31 6:00pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship Service			

August 2016 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Norm Picha	3	4	5	6
7	8 Dannielle Coursolle Janice Taylor	9	10 Elsie Johnson	11 Scott Rooney	12	13 Peggy Krovchuk
14	15	16	17 Samantha Shanley	18	19 Donna Johnson Ray Morency Sarah Engen	20 Kari Haycraft
21 Martin Myhra Clarence Sharrow	22 Trent Lewis Jill Hoffmeyer	23 Karen Hemmingson Dave Siegel Tyler Rooney Briar Rieke	24	25 Arthur Young	26 David Hohle Donna Neubauer	27
28	29	30	31 Charles Fox Cynthia Sonju			

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 click teams and join Bethesda Believers. To guarantee your shirt size you MUST be registered by July 8th.

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

"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:

LaVonne Selvog, July 9th

Tyler Orpen, died July 5th

Alice O'Neill, died June 26th

Michael Shubat, died June 23rd

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

Lorna Hohle, Orville Gunderson (uncle of Pastor Terry), Lucille Sharrow, 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 Heltne, Glenn and Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Eleanor Stephens, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Shirley Wamstad (friend of Clarence and Lucille Sharrow), Richard Johnson (uncle of Renee DeSchane), Mary Jacobs, Emily Willette, Julie Swedberg, Irene Zamora, Angel Fairbanks (great niece of Gary and Donna Johnson), Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), Sarah Engedal, Martin Zuniga (uncle of Dan and Amy Delgado), Bob Sharrow (brother of Clarence Sharrow), John Sargent, 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), Joleen Leier Mary Ann Dalton (friend of Theresa Staehnke), Mary Lou Olson (friend of Kim Burress), (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: