

August Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS 9:00am Worship Service

WEDNESDAYS 6:30pm Worship Service

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday, August 7 **4:00-7:00pm**
Neighborhood Parking Lot Celebration

Friday, August 16 **9:00am-12:30pm Vacation Bible School**

Upcoming Events (Mark Your Calendars)

Saturday, September 14 **Bethesda Booya**
Tuesday, September 24 **6:00pm Women's Fall Kick-off**
(Eating Together-Nourishing One Another)
Sunday, September 29 **125th Anniversary Potluck**

From Pastor Maggie -

“Rejoice in the Lord always again I say rejoice, let your gentleness be made known to everyone t. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything but in prayer and supplications with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God.” (Philippians 4: 4-6)

I went into Hobby Lobby the other day hoping to find a birthday gift for my sister-in-law Laurie. She is a gardener and I had seen some fun garden décor that I thought she might enjoy. I went only to discover that there was not one summer item left in their merchandise and that not only was all the Fall décor forty percent off but all their Christmas merchandise was on display! This was on July 21, only one month into summer. Christmas in July? Aren't they rushing it a little?

It seems to me that we are always standing on tip toe in expectation for the next great thing to happen. The problem with that is we never fully enjoy what is happening right now. When you will be reading this it will be August 1st. August, the last hurrah of Summer. Warm nights when stars shoot across the sky; the lakes at their warmest invite swimmers to take a plunge; the flowers crowd out the weeds; farmer markets begin the peak vegetable season and county fairs are in abundance. August the splendor of summer, here for our enjoyment if we live into it.

So what if we decide to be present? Really present. Taking each moment and savoring it for what it is. It isn't easy to do. We are so trained to be thinking ahead. Living into the thing or event that is to come rather than enjoying what we are doing in the moment. Worrying about tomorrow as if that is an honorable thing to do. God has given us this day and this day only. None of us know what tomorrow will bring. God has promised that no matter what happens “The Lord is near”. If the Lord is near at all times we can settle down. We can breathe. We can let go of needless worry and relax in God's presence. We can experience the joy of each and every day.

Spiritual Practice Exercise:

- What you will need – paper and pencil or laptop.
- Time – 10 minutes
- Make yourself comfortable in a pleasing space in which you will not be disturbed by anyone.
- Make two columns and list things you are worried about in one column and the statement “God is near” in the other.
Example: Things that I am worrying about now
How I will handle all the homework in college - God is near.
My doctor's appointment next week – God is near.
My son's/daughter's relationship with me – God is near
- Make another list of two columns listing things you are experiencing in the here and now
Example: Things I am experiencing at this present moment
I am watching kids playing outside and they are laughing. – God is near.
I hear the fan running – God is near
I smell the aroma of bacon - God is near.
- Try this several times throughout the week for several weeks and see if you become less anxious and more aware of God's presence in your everyday life.



Bethesda Missions

ILAG Guatemalan Mission

Neighbor's Inc.

Feed My Starving Children

Mission Trip Scholarship Fund

Come invite neighbors and friends...



CHURCH WIDE EVENT **Bethesda Neighborhood** **Parking Lot Party and Picnic**

Wednesday, August 7th!

4:00-7:00pm

Free Food----Free Food----Free Food

Hot Dogs, Chips and Lemonade

Come join us to celebrate our church, our neighbors, our great parking lot and our mission of extending God's love. **PLAN TO SHARE THE FUN:** picnic food, bouncy house, gaga pit, wheels parade, **LIVE BAND**, and enjoying each other.

Bring your children or grandchildren for bouncy fun in an inflatable bouncy house!!!

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

Ecclesiastes 3

Save the Date

Women's Fall Kick-off

Tuesday September 24th

6:00 pm

Eating Together - Nourishing One Another

"Therefore encourage one another
and build one another up, just as you
are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

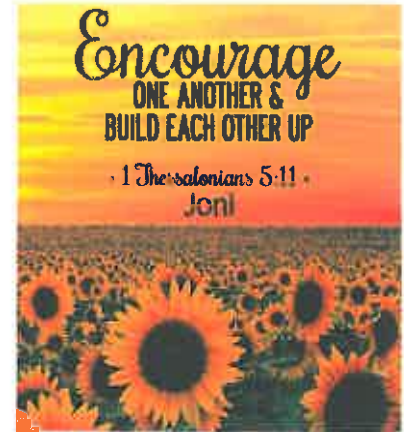
SPECIAL EVENTS

Book Club

The next book club meeting will be on August 20th at 5:30 pm. We will be discussing the book "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova. Books can be picked up from Jennifer McCabe.

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.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study will be taking a break for August and September. We will resume again in October. Join us again in the fall.

For more information contact
Sharon Stanefski.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

AUGUST

Book Club
August 20th

September

Fall Kick-Off
September 24th



Women's Ministry Board Members

Team Leader:
Naomi Dorau

Treasurer:
Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:
Naomi Dorau
Sharon Stanefski

Boutique spaces:
Lynette Thorson

Cookies for Shut-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Dannielle Coursolle

Other Advisors:
Women at Large

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

ReFresh & ReNew Chairs:
Cheryl Hilber
Robin Ross

Contact Information

Womenofbethesda@gmail.com

WHY EQUAL EXCHANGE?



This was the question Women of Bethesda discussed at our June Picnic meeting. We voted to continue purchasing Equal Exchange coffee to be used at Bethesda as a mission project. Perhaps it's time to share more information about this global mission we have supported for 20+ years.

The small-scale farmers who grow Equal Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate control their own businesses on land that they own, by working together through farmer cooperatives. They then have access to support and training. Fair Trade (being paid a fair wage) allows the hard working farmers to invest in education, health programs and social services for their communities.

Over the years the number and varieties of products offered for sale has grown so we cannot have an inventory on hand for every taste. Fellowship Blend Regular and Decaf are served at Bethesda. Coffee is also available in whole bean and various roasts from beans grown in different countries. To accommodate new coffee trends even K-cups and Cold Brew are available. Check the product list on the Women's Bulletin Board and perhaps you and family or friends might consider an order to share or give as gifts. Marsha Morgan is taking care of orders at Bethesda and would be happy to help or you might wish to place your own order on line. Tea drinkers check out the variety of tea flavors. The chocolate products are awesome both bars and chips and cocoa for baking (shipped during cooler months). Nuts (cashews and almonds) and dried mango slices make wonder snacks.

Individual bags of coffee are available for self-service purchase in the lounge. A container is available for payment – checks should be made payable to Women of Bethesda.

Thank you for your support.

Elsie Johnson

BETHESDA YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

August Parking Lot Party and Bowling

Come help out at the Bethesda Parking Lot Party on August 7th! Help needed from 3 - 7pm with set-up, games, and food. Join the youth group after the party for bowling from 7:30 - 9:30pm. \$10/person

Stay Tuned for Fall Youth Group!

Fall is quickly approaching, and with that, youth group will be back! We want to hear from YOU, the youth, about how you want youth group to look in the following year. Let Beth know if you have any ideas for events, service projects, or other fun youth group activities.



Thank You for Your Support!

Summer is a busy time at Bethesda! It is the generous support of this congregation that makes youth mission trips and going to Bible camp possible. These ministries create lifelong memories and help our students grow in their faith lives. Thank you for all the different ways you have supported the Bethesda youth in the last year.

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

VBS 2019: Wild Bethesda

Join us for a wild adventure as we learn more about God's awesome creation! VBS runs each day from 9am - 12:30pm. Everyday will include skits, songs, classroom time, crafts, games, and a snack!

August 16th: Sky

Register for the remaining day on the Bethesda Facebook page!

We still need help on our last VBS day for this summer! Let Beth know if you are interested in helping.

My dear family of Bethesda, it is with mixed emotions that I head to a new home and a different life. I have been so blessed that this has been my church and you have been my family for 19 years. We have sung together, played, laughed, and cried together. I can never thank you enough for all the support and prayers you have said over me and my family in both joyful and sorrowful times.

I have many happy memories of this congregation, including being your "scout" on the first Guatemalan mission trip. Through that experience, amazing support and growth has come from the ILAG mission of growing the church in Guatemala. Relay for Life took on a whole new meaning for me when we celebrated the lives of so many friends and family. The contemporary band and joining the choir was not only a blessing but something that helped me grow in my faith through music and become so close to a number of you. Being on the Council and Call committees helped me learn about the inner workings of organizations in the church, and many retreats and events have shown me what being a good Lutheran and Christian means.

When I was a young adult never did I think I would be friends with pastors – both male and female – and their families. They are not scary or intimidating – but Christians just like us. Bethesda helped me so much in my faith journey and helped me to believe that no matter what comes my way, God and my faith family will help me through it.

There are so many of you that I could name individually as friends and "earth angels" who have not only helped me walk my faith but have been there through all the craziness that life can be and you have prayed me through it. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you have been to and for me.

You have not seen the last of me – but I hope to make a positive impact through a new Lutheran church by Webb Lake, Wisconsin. I will never forget all you have done for me and my family. Proverbs 27:9 says, "A sweet friendship refreshes the soul". My friends, you have refreshed and renewed us beyond anything I could have hoped or imagined. Thank you for all you are and blessings to all of you. Please keep in touch.

Love to you all,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theresa".

Theresa Staehnke and family

Treasurer's Report

June, 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 expense exceeded income by \$1,169.91. Receipts to the mortgage reduction fund no longer cover the mortgage payment resulting in a negative balance of \$3,645.81.

All Funds	Balance
General Fund	(\$35,209.86)
Capital	31,174.41
Mortgage Reduction	(3,645.81)
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	14.71
Dedicated Memorial	5,151.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,186.23
Garden Party	241.59
Special Appeals In/Out	12,312.21
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	250.00
Choir	558.20
Youth Mission Trip	1,298.69
Youth Faith Based Activities	585.28
Youth Camp Travel Fund	1,394.56
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,056.09
Christian Care Fund	300.00
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Smores (Outreach)	2,624.60
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	67,931.39
Missions	1,929.50
Tech Team	344.65
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	4,140.91
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	959.67
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
New Sign Fund	7,231.00
Sound System Fund	6,575.00
Youth Room Repairs	(3,874.81)
Lenten Supper	0.00
Total All Funds	\$ 110,163.16

Statement of Activities	June	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 12,774.64	\$ 73,354.82
Loose	103.00	1,757.25
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	0.00
Other General Fund	228.18	582.37
Thrivent Dollars	338.00	993.00
Preschool Rent	2,100.00	13,900.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	2,869.00
Coffee Fund	141.00	793.51
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 15,684.82	\$ 94,249.95
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 11,912.88	\$ 71,936.24
Non-Salary General & Administrative	1,338.84	7,903.50
Property	3,159.69	25,345.88
Worship And Music	219.95	1,707.89
Education	98.73	149.98
Youth	124.64	521.49
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:	\$ 16,854.73	\$ 107,564.98

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,805.80
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	399,458.07
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	7,808.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 409,071.87
Average monthly income needed to make 2019 budget:	\$ 19,018.33
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 15,684.82
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 15,708.33
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 17,927.50

We have a new On-Line giving provider. Please check out the new site by going to the link on the Bethesda Website



2019

September Events:

September 14

Bethesda Booya (11:00am-3:00pm)

September 29

125th Anniversary Potluck

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg.	2	3
4 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service *	5 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	6 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm Executive Team 6:30pm Property Team	7 4:00-7:00pm Neighborhood Parking Lot Celebration	8 10:00am Bible Study	9	10
11 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 10:00am Prayer Group	14 6:30pm Worship Service	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg.	16 9:00am-12:30pm VBS	17
18 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service *	19 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	20 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Book Club	21 6:30pm Worship Service	22 10:00am Bible Study	23	24
25 11th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27 10:00am Prayer Group	28 6:30pm Worship Service	29	30	31



2019 Birthdays

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Dannielle Coursolle Janice Taylor	9	10 Elsie Johnson
11 Scott Rooney	12	13	14	15	16	17 Samantha Shanley
18	19 Donna Johnson	20	21 Martin Myhra	22 Jill Hoffmeyer Trent Lewis	23 Karen Hemming- son Tyler Rooney	24
25	26 David Hohle Donna Neubauer	27	28	29	30	31 Charles Fox Cynthia Sonju



Council Corner

Council Corner Highlights from July Meeting

We discussed the upcoming church picnic, August 7th, 4-7pm

This is a church wide event so encourage all members to attend and help if possible. Some ways to help are.

Upcoming Weeding Mondays come anytime

July 22nd, July 29, August 5th

See sign up sheets for me info

Join us for the Smore meeting July 25th to finalize picnic plans

We also discussed the 125th Anniversary potluck brunch which will be September 29 following 9am worship.

"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:

Tom Classen died June 30th

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

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

For those with health concerns:

Rob Harrison (son of Theresa Staehnke), Renee Edmunds, Sharon Nelson

Hospice:

Carol Evenson

Prayers of Thanksgiving: