

February Bell Echoes

Bethesda Lutheran Church



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 5	10:00am (One Service Only)
February 12	9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship
February 19	9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship
February 26	9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship
March 1	ASH Wednesday (Lent Begins)

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

I recently met with the church council at Bethesda Lutheran Church, and I accepted their offer to serve as your interim pastor. My name is Ralph Baumgartner, and I am a retired pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). I will be with you on a part-time basis, and I started on January 17th. I will be serving you for the next several months until a more permanent pastor is called by you.

I have been around Bethesda on-and-off over the years. I imagine that some of you may know me. For those who don't, this will suffice as a brief introduction. I have been an ELCA pastor for 42 years, having served congregations in Texas and Minnesota. 18 of those years were in Spanish-speaking situations. I have also served on the staff of the Saint Paul Area Synod. I live in the Como Park area of Saint Paul, and I am a member of Christ Lutheran Church on Capitol Hill.

I plan to generally to be on site at the church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. However, I am open to appointments at other times, as well as to provide pastoral care when needed. If I am not in the church office, do not hesitate to contact me directly. My cell phone number is (651) 260-0669. If I do not answer, please **do leave a voice mail message**. If you don't, I will not call you back because I do not call phone numbers that I do not recognize. In addition you can send me an email at rbaumgartner001@gmail.com. I promise that I will be attentive to my voice mail and email messages.

Our brothers and sisters at Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church, which meets at Galilee Lutheran Church in Roseville, refer to one another as "co-workers". I think that is a wonderful way to address each other. In his letter to the Philippians, the Apostle Paul writes to those Christians about how "my co-workers...have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel". Let us also think of you and me as co-workers in the work of the gospel. I look forward to our partnership in the mission of Jesus Christ.

Blessings!

Pastor Ralph Baumgartner



Bethesda Missions

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

The SMORE'S Look forward to 2017!

The SMORE Committee looks forward to being involved in service to our church and community. We look forward to increasing mission involvement and supporting our missions in prayer and in donations. We also look forward to reaching out to others in help and in love. The SMORE Committee invites other Bethesda members to join them in the planning and organization of the various projects and activities Bethesda takes part in during the year. The next meeting is Thursday, February 2, at 6:30 pm.

Giving Tree Totals

Thank you for your generous giving for the missions represented on The Giving Tree. A total of \$778 was collected for these supported missions to go along with many toys, bikes and clothing items.

Neighbor's Inc.

Great American Food Fight- February and March

Area restaurants compete for the "best" title. Purchase a Food Fight Card, redeem it for featured **Chicken Wings** and then vote for your favorite. We receive a lower price and Neighbors' gets the proceeds. A great win for everyone!!! See Jane McLagan for your \$30 Food Fight Card.

. . .

Watch for a Concert Celebration of John Kemp's long term work at Neighbor's Inc. He is retiring! We are trying to keep this as a surprise. Concert with fellowship to follow is at First Presbyterian Church, Sunday February 19th , 2:00 pm. Watch for more details.

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Get ready for March Food Share Month!

Food For Friends

Our new care giving ministry that focuses on sharing meals with those needing support and encouragement, is off to a good start. Please join us for the next cooking session , Tuesday, February 21, at 6:00pm. We can all watch for opportunities to **uplift others by signing out and delivering a meal**. Our whole congregation can be involved in either the preparation or in the awareness and delivery of strength giving love and nourishment to others.



FEBRUARY 2017

GOD'S CONTAGIOUS LOVE

AS FOR US, WE CANNOT HELP SPEAKING ABOUT WHAT

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,

Here in Minne-so-ta we sometimes are more enticed to stay home on a cold winter's night. Remember on those cold days when your attitude might not be the best or you are feeling a little lonely, God is as near to you as your Bethesda family. Reach out to others and please connect with your sisters in Christ.

*Be still, and know that I am
God: Psalm 46:10*

Cheryl Hilber & Robin Ross



WOMEN'S UPDATES

Women's ReFresh & ReNew Day: Saturday, Feb 25
Please save the date and invite others. We have some wonderful things in the planning.

Lenten Dinner The women will serve dinner on Wednesday, March 8. Do you have an idea for the Freewill offering? Please share with Robin or Cheryl so we can present the idea to the womens board members.

Rescheduled Movie Night: Tues. March 14, 6:30pm Join us for an evening with Anita Renfroe, I'm Not High Maintenance Just Low Tolerance" plus popcorn plus candy! Bring your own beverage.

Spring event: Saturday, April 1 breakfast and program

St Paul Area Synod Women's events

- February 4, Soup Luncheon 10:30-1:00, Christ The King, New Brighton
- May 5 & 6 Spring Convention, St Philip's Lutheran Church, Hasting

Watch for more details provided on women's board when it arrives.

Contact information

Cheryl Hilber 651-428-8949 hilber24@aol.com
Robin Ross 651-210-5472 robin.ross@icloud.com
Womenofbethesda@gmail.com

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Wednesday morning
Bible study 9:30-11:00**
"John's Letters"

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

Book Club resumes
February 6, 6:30pm.
Our book is "Wonder"
by RJ Palacio.

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.

WHAT'S NEXT

Mark your calendars

ReFresh & ReNew
February 25

Lenten Dinner
March 8

Movie Night
March 14

Spring Event
April 1

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

Cookies for Shui-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Danielle Courselle

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney



ReFRESH & ReNEW
A Day for Women Connecting in Faith

REGISTRATION

February 25, 2017 8:30am-1:00pm

Continental Breakfast and Lunch Provided



Please register online at: www.bethesdalutheranchurch.org

or return this form to the church office by Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Make checks payable to **"Women of Bethesda"** for \$15 or pay at the door.

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Breakout Sessions

You will be attending two sessions. Please indicate your first, second, and an optional third choice. We will do our best to accommodate you. Place a 1, 2, or 3 by your choices.

_____ **Seeds Of Forgiveness**

What is forgiveness? It's not always easy. Why is it important to forgive others? The Bible shows two types of forgiveness: God's pardon of our sins and our obligation to pardon others. Let's plant the seeds of forgiveness together and discover how to be forgiven and how to forgive others.

_____ **Seeds Of Self Nurturing (DIY)**

Those times when we feel like we are "falling apart," "losing it," going to pieces," are the times we are growing. The more we understand this is the way the process works; the easier it becomes to not judge and shame ourselves; the more capacity we have to Love and nurture ourselves. Discover how taking time for yourself benefits not just you but your loved ones as well. We'll look at ways to meditate, breath, and use God's natural materials to make and take your own essential oil.

_____ **Seeds Of Relationship**

In the physical world you will never plant peach pits and get apples. In the same way, there will be consistency between the seeds of words and actions that you plant in your relationships and the quality of harvest that you will experience later as you live and relate to one another. Join us, as we learn how to plant the seeds of healthy relationships.

_____ **Seeds Of Kindness**

As we take a look at kindness we need to realize it is something that comes from within which we manifest outward in what we say and what we do. Reflect for a minute on all the people you have in your life--your spouse, your kids, your in-laws, your friends, strangers, anyone you come in contact with. If they were asked, would they say you are a kind person? We will explore what it means to be kind and how Christ wants our kind words and actions to be a light to lost souls.

Youth News at Bethesda

FEBRUARY 2017



Out and About with the Youth

Here are some fun events coming soon for the youth to participate in.

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ *Camp Sunday*
January 29
- ◆ *Ski trip*
February 18
- ◆ *Lake Elmo*
tubing
February 26
- ◆ *Gerten's Gift*
Cards - May
- ◆ *Camp Week*



Welch village ski trip

February 18th we will be making a trip to Welch village for all ages! (5th grade and younger must have an adult guardian there) we will meet at Bethesda at 1:45 to leave by 2 and return by 11pm.

Prices are as follows: \$15 for a lift ticket for Bethesda members or \$25 for non-members, \$20 for rentals (if needed), and \$5 for helmet rentals as well as cash for food expenses etc.

See the youth board for more info!

Lake Elmo tubing trip

On Sunday Feb. 26th after church we will be gathering for pizza and then heading over to green acres recreation for some snow tubing fun! This is an event for 4th-12th graders and costs \$15 per person.

See the youth board or Jacob Backman for more details.

IT'S CAMP TIME

The time is coming soon to register for Camp. This year our youth will be experiencing camp a little differently.

Due to some changes being made with Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp Inc., Luther Dell will not be offering camp and retreat or summer programs in 2017.

So this year our youth grades 4th—8th (completed this year) will be attending Wapo Bible. Our the 9th—12th grade youth will participate in a program called TIM Team (Teens in Mission). They will have cabins at Ox Lake, just a short jaunt from Wapo but their days will be spent at both Ox Lake and at Wapo where they will get to work with the younger kids. Many of the same activities and programming they experienced at Luther, just a different location.

Bethesda Youth must sign up before **March 15th** as our spaces are limited. After this date, there is no guarantee a space will be available. More information will be coming soon.

Contact the youth team with any questions!

Jacob Backman: jacob.backman@comcast.net Kim Burruss: kburruss@men.com or 651-457-7080 or 651-260-3922
Beth McCabe emccabe@gustavus.edu JaimeAnn Ross: jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com or call/text 651-353-6793

Sunday School News- February

Blessings to you! Our upcoming schedule for the next month will be changing to reflect the return to two worship services.

February 5th – One worship service at 10 am Sunday School Class after the children's moment –Puppet Show during children's moment

February 12th – Sunday School Class after the children's moment during 9 am worship-All about Love, making Valentine's

February 19th--Regular Sunday School Class after the children's moment during 9 am worship

February 26th – Regular Sunday School Class after the children's moment during 9 am worship

Teach (teech) means to impart knowledge or skill in: give instruction in

New teachers are always welcomed and encouraged. Please prayerfully consider teaching. You would be responsible for rotating months during the Sunday School year (approximately every third month). Thank you to our substitutes! Dannielle Coursole has joined the team as a regular teacher and will be teaching 3 yrs to 2nd grade.

Our class time is approximately 09:25 to 10:15 am when there are 2 services and at 10:25 to 11:15 when there is one service.

Blessings,

Jennifer McCabe

Phone 651-552-7232 Email jsmccabe2003@hotmail.com



February 2017

March Events: March 1 Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)
 March 4 RFL-Hope Boutique

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Confirmation	2 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORES Mtg.	3	4
5 5th Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am Worship Service* 10:25am Sunday School 11:15am Annual Meeting 6:00pm Girl Scouts	6 6:30pm Book Club 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	7 10:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Executive Team 6:30pm Property Team	8 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Confirmation	9 10:00am Bible Study	10	11
12 6th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship 4:00pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Girl Scouts	13 6:30pm Boy Scouts	14 10:00am Prayer Group	15 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Confirmation	16 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg.	17	18
19 7th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00am Worship Service* 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship* 6:00pm Girl Scouts	20 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	21 10:00am Prayer Group	22 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:00pm Confirmation	23 10:00am Bible Study	24	25 8:00am Women's Refresh & Renew Day
26 Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship 6:00pm Girl Scouts	27 6:30pm Boy Scouts	28 10:00am Prayer Group				



February 2017 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Rebecca Coursolle	4 Fran Delia
5 Alison Todd	6	7 Greg Hoffmeyer	8	9	10 Greg Todd	11 Jason Rooney Deb Bowman
12 Gail Rosati	13 Ellen Nelson	14 Richard Atkinson	15 Renee DeSchane	16 Nadia Lewis	17	18 James Morgan
19	20 Kimberly Pearson	21	22	23	24	25
26 Fred Grimsrud	27	28 Kaitlyn Crowe Barbara Hickman Eleanor Stephens				

To: Women's Ministries and Quilting Ladies

Thank you for the cookies and the wonderful quilted lap blanket. The cookies were delicious and the blanket is so beautiful and keeps me warm! *Love Ardie*

To my Bethesda family, many thanks for the generous Christmas gift. It's a pleasure to serve this wonderful congregation. *Pam Murray*

To the wonderful members of Bethesda, thanks for your wonderful Christmas gift. I wish everyone a very blessed New Year. *Kay Syverson*

Dear People of Bethesda,

I want to take this opportunity thank-you for the gift received at Christmas. I am always amazed with your generosity and kindness.

Also I want to let you know that the choir will take a hiatus the month of February. Dave and I will be taking a break from the Minnesota winter and spend time with our daughter in California. We will return on Ash Wednesday, March 1.

*Love to you all,
Ann Siegel*

A very special thank you to Sally Muraski for the beautiful quilt that she made for me. It is of great comfort to see the many names and well wishes from my Bethesda family as I continue on this cancer journey.
Love, Kim Burress

Treasurer's Report

December, 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.

<u>All Funds</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General Fund	(\$26,778.93)
Capital	24,753.78
Parking Lot	124,515.45
Mortgage Reduction	5,070.19
Sunday School	911.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	136.85
Dedicated Memorial	2,915.00
Undedicated Memorial	4,764.35
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	0.00
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	1,275.97
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	150.00
Choir	2,056.81
Youth Mission Trip	1,932.47
Youth Faith Based Activities	3,948.92
Luther Dell Scholarships	469.59
Hohle Scholarship	97.25
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	3,204.52
Youth Room Equipment	0.00
Christian Care Fund	600.00
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	92,542.00
Missions	935.00
Tech Team	99.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	3,429.60
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,402.10
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,548.77
Special Appeal - Tax Assessment	0.00
Banners	200.00
Senior Ministries	545.00
New Sign Fund	3,023.00
Total All Funds	<u>\$ 263,549.26</u>

<u>Statement of Activities</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 14,450.00	\$ 183,317.00
Loose	554.00	3,388.00
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	2,468.05
Other General Fund	560.78	6,896.78
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	1,510.00
Preschool Rent	825.00	9,695.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	9,032.50
Coffee Fund	84.25	1,488.52
Total General Fund Income:	<u>\$ 16,474.03</u>	<u>\$ 217,795.85</u>
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 13,681.27	\$ 159,605.76
Non-Salary General & Administrative	3,002.93	18,235.45
Property	2,256.69	37,292.58
Worship And Music	383.73	2,389.07
Education	416.58	1,271.51
Youth	0.00	953.65
Outreach	0.00	147.80
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	1,000.00	1,000.00
Camp Wapogasset	700.00	700.00
Total General Fund Expenses:	<u>\$ 21,441.20</u>	<u>\$ 221,595.82</u>

<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Payroll Withholding	\$ 2,885.15
Mission Investment Mort.	0.00
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	442,255.52
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	12,458.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$457,398.67</u>

"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:

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

Emily Willette, Andy Benjamin (friend of Renee and Chet DeSchane), Lorna Hohle, Dawn Belotta (daughter of Maxine Pfeiffer), George Pankonin, Evelyn Johnson (granddaughter of Donna and Gary Johnson), Christopher Johnson (son of Gary and Donna Johnson), Clarence and Lucille Sharrow, Greg Walker, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neil, Helen Schadegg, Glenn and Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Eleanor Stephens, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Kay Syverson, Jeff Geiselhart, Steve Heltne, Jane Gustafson, Loren Neubauer, Kay Roberts, David Sonju, Finley Doyle (great granddaughter of Sally Muraski), Yvonne Morency, Kelsey Breitkruetz, Emersyn Kay Johnson, Clementine Brown, Ethel Naslund (aunt of Cathy Nordheim), Jane Gegel (friend of Pastor Terry), Sarah Engedal (great-niece of Renee DeSchane), Kyla Henderson (friend of Amber Thorson), Renee Edmunds, Addy Nordheim (mother of Pastor Terry), Carol Evenson, Edie Klineboehl (co-worker of Chet DeSchane), Larry Krech (nephew of Fran Delia), Judy Carney (sister of Naomi Dorau), Kyle Galle, Donna Johnson, Jane Walker, Mary Jacobs, Julie Swedberg, Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), John Sargent, Sue Linn, Kim Burress, Joleen Leier (friend of Lynette and Randy Thorson), Kelly Dohmen, Kris Jore, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan), Mary Morness, Dale Knutson (nephew of Jane Gustafson)

Hospice:

Carol Tiedman (mother-in-law of Jennifer Tiedman), Darleen Heltne, Marilyn Johnson (sister of Dave Siegel,

Prayers of Thanksgiving: