

June Bell Echoes Bethesda Lutheran Church



**Summer Worship
May 28-September 3**

9:30am Traditional Worship

**Wednesday Worship
May 31-August 30**

6:30pm Contemporary Worship

**Mark Your Calendars
June 4—10:45am
Congregational/Town Hall Meeting**

**Congregational Meeting to approve additional costs of parking lot*

**Town Hall Meeting hear conclusions of MET Team from Cottage Meetings and History Events*

Pastor's Message
Bell Echo newsletter
June, 2017

As I write this article, we have already had one of our cottage meetings, and there are three more to go. In April we had our History Events which helped us to clarify our *identity* as a congregation. The cottage meetings in May will serve to help us clarify our *mission*. Not everyone in the congregation may be paying attention while we go through this process, and that is normal. Neither will everyone "get" why we are even doing it. However, I am convinced that we need to become as clear as humanly possible on what is Bethesda's identity and mission, which serve as essential components leading into the call process for a new pastor. We need to get as many of our members as possible on the same page as to what we are looking for in a pastor based upon our identity and mission. I believe that we are well on our way to doing that.

The Mission Exploration Team (MET) will reflect on what we will hear in the cottage meetings, as well as what we have already heard in the History Events, and they will formulate a document that summarizes Bethesda's attitude regarding its identity and mission. On behalf of the MET team, we invite you to hear and react to their conclusions at a ***Congregational Town Hall Meeting***, which will be held after the service on ***Sunday, June 4th***. By then we will be on our summer worship schedule with one service at 9:30 am. The Town Hall Meeting will start at ***10:45 am that day***. Hopefully we will have the support of the congregation on the conclusions reached by the MET team, and those will be the basis of the call committee's task of developing criteria for choosing a candidate for pastor who the congregation may consider for the call.

Meanwhile, God bless you and your loved ones as we enter the wonderful season of summer!
Pastor Ralph



Bethesda Missions

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

Mission Focus for June Guatemala Mission Trip

The mission trip for this year is planned for July 28- August 5th.

The delegation will be focused on education and will be visiting several schools. **Donations for school supplies would be much appreciated.** Both Jennifer Tiedman and Dave Hohle will be a part of this year's mission trip. If you are interested in going on the mission trip or want additional information about donating educational supplies please see either Jennifer Tiedman or Cheryl Hilber. **School donations may be placed in the Guatemala bound suitcase in the narthex.**

Neighbor's Inc

Food Shelf-

The March Food Share drive raised 324,850 pounds/dollars. This achievement places them **#2 in the state** for this campaign. This is the best rank ever achieved, up from #3 last year. Thanks again, way to go!!! In addition, Neighbor's received 26,000 pounds of food through the mail carriers Stamp Out Hunger drive which happened on Saturday, May 13th. Neighbor's also welcomes any extra fresh produce you grow this summer. Garden produce is the freshest, healthiest food they can get all year. **Thanks to all for participating!**

Clothes Closet-

Neighbor's Clothes Closet received of huge box of some premium clothing that was left over from our basement sale. Two roller suitcases were also donated.

Neighbor's Summer School Feeding Program

Please help local children for a couple of hours by serving either breakfast or lunch at **Kapasia Elementary school during the week of July 10th-13th(just 4 days Monday- Thursday).** Signup sheet is on lounge bulletin board.

Feed My Starving Children

HELP NEEDED DUE TO WAR AND FAMINE!!! Please sign up to pack meals on June 7th at 6:00-7:30. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the lounge hallway. **There is a great need for food for the children of Africa due to continuing war and famine.** Due to this great need there will be a huge mobile pack at Saint Paul River Centre (175 West Kellogg Blvd) June 2-5. We will be packing **6 million meals to feed Somalia (biggest mobile pack ever)! Sign up at LOVESOMALIA.ORG .**

BETHESDA
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH



JUNE 2017

**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

Greetings,

Thanks so much to the women who attended our May women's group. We had a great study as well as some wonderful discussion about what our group, guidelines and responsibilities are.

We are looking forward to our end of the year picnic. We encourage everyone to join us and bring a friend! Sign up will be on the women's board.

Sisters in Christ,
Cheryl Hilber & Robin Ross

UPCOMING EVENTS

Picnic: Tuesday, June 13 at 6:00pm. Potluck sign up to be posted on Women's Board in the hallway.

Coffee BREAK! Fair Trade Coffee is ordered by the Women of Bethesda and is used on Sunday mornings, as well as other Bethesda events. If you would like to purchase some coffee it is available in the lounge.

Book Club Our September book discussion will be "The Shack" by William Young. We anticipate many may attend as this has been a popular book! If you haven't read it find it this summer and plan to join us in the fall. It's also a great time to invite others to join the discussion!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Wednesday morning
Bible study 9:30-11:00**

May 31st is the last study in the "HOPE - Your Heart's Deepest Longings" study.

Summer schedule starts on Wednesday June 21st (9am because of Mobile Meals) and goes for 6 weeks, ending on Wednesday July 26th. We will start again in October.

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



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 Shut-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Danielle Courselle

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

Contact Information

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

Watch for emails regarding upcoming events!

WHAT'S

**Mark your
calendars**

June 13th
Women's Picnic

Youth News at Bethesda

JUNE 2017



Congratulations!

*We would like to congratulate
our graduates.*

**Dates to
Remember:**

- ◆ *Mission Trip*
July 8-15
Loveland, CO
- ◆ *Camp Week*
July 23-28
- ◆ *Relay for Life*
August 5, 3:00
p.m. - Midnight
- ◆ *Vacation Bible*
School
August 6-9



Tyler Rooney
South St. Paul High School

Beth McCabe
Gustavus Adolphus College



**Vacation Bible
School**
August 6-9, 2017

Hey Youth! How about helping at VBS? Acting, skit writing, singing, dancing, coordinating games. The list is endless. Contact Beth McCabe for more information. bmccabe088@gmail.com

**Gerten's Plant Cards
Fundraiser**

How are your gardens coming along? Need more plants? Gerten's Gift cards will be available through June 11th from one of our youth or by calling Kim Burress at 651-260-3922.

Increments of \$25, \$50, & \$100. Redeemable for plants at Gertens. Not available for use on gift shop or other items.

Contact the youth team with any questions!

Jacob Backman: jacob.backman@comcast.net
Kim Burress: kburress@msn.com or 651-457-7080 or 651-260-3922
Beth McCabe bmccabe088@gmail.com

Mighty Fortress: Vacation Bible School 2017!

Vacation Bible School has been moved to be **August 6th – 9th, 2017!** This year's Vacation Bible School will explore more about Lutheran heritage in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Join us for a week of castles, knights, kings, and queens.

The next VBS planning meeting is **MAY 30th at 7:00pm**. This meeting will be used to confirm many of the volunteer positions needed to make VBS a success! The following meeting will be **JUNE 26th at 7:00pm**.

Volunteer Positions Needed:

- Classroom Teachers
- Snack Time Coordinator
- Arts and Craft Coordinator
- Registration Assistants
- Photographer
- Newsletter Editor
- T-shirt Designer
- Skit Actors
- Skit Writers
- Music Coordinator
- Singers and Dancers
- Games Coordinator
- Preschool Shepherds
- General Helpers

ALL ARE WELCOME, ALL ARE NEEDED! Please prayerfully consider what you are able to help with! Everything helps!

Questions? Contact Beth McCabe: bmccabe088@gmail.com, 651-315-4634 (call or text)

Treasurer's Report

April, 2017

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	(\$32,211.74)
Capital	27,115.78
Parking Lot	123,915.45
Mortgage Reduction	5,993.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	78.75
Dedicated Memorial	2,410.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,020.04
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	0.00
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	180.42
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	150.00
Choir	1,656.81
Youth Mission Trip	899.97
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,854.42
Youth Camp Travel Fund	469.59
Hohle Scholarship	0.00
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	3,739.39
Christian Care Fund	536.23
Men's Club	54.00
Parish Nurse	692.00
Pastor's Trip	0.00
Smores (Outreach)	3,033.77
Financial University Fund	201.96
Paul & Agnes Thoring Endowed Fund	93,162.00
Missions	1,134.00
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	3,794.47
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,566.98
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,548.77
New Sign Fund	5,426.00
Total All Funds	\$ 256,449.59

Statement of Activities	April	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 17,145.00	\$ 57,543.50
Loose	444.05	1,460.45
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	63.00
Other General Fund	30.95	349.22
Thrivent Dollars	596.00	1,437.00
Preschool Rent	825.00	3,480.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	915.00
Coffee Fund	143.15	419.41
Total General Fund Income:	\$ 19,184.15	\$ 65,667.58
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 9,816.41	\$ 45,133.11
Non-Salary General & Administrative	709.69	5,926.72
Property	3,546.71	18,867.75
Worship And Music	354.40	675.30
Education	0.00	257.50
Youth	102.63	240.01
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:	\$ 14,529.84	\$ 71,100.39

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,708.80
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	436,726.66
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	11,838.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 450,273.46

June 2017

July Events:

July 8-15
July 10-13

Mission Trip, Loveland, CO
Neighbors Summer Food Program
at Kaposia Elementary

August Events:

July 28-Aug 4
August 6-9

Mission Trip to Guatemala
Vacation Bible School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg.	2	3
4 Day of Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service * 10:45am Bethesda Congregational/Town Hall Meeting	5 6:30pm Quilting B's	6 10:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Executive Team 6:30pm Property Team 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	7 6:30pm Worship Service	8 10:00am Bible Study	9	10
11 The Holy Trini- ty 9:30am Worship Service	12	13 10:00am Prayer Group 6:00pm Women's Picnic 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	14 6:30pm Worship Service	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg. Note: Youth Fundraiser at Culver's	16	17
18 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service *	19 1:00pm Quilting B's	20 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	21 9:00-10:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm Worship Service	22 10:00am NO Bible Study	23	24
25 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service	26 7:00pm VBS Meeting	27 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm RFL Meeting 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal Note: Youth Fundraiser at Applebee's	28 9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Worship Service	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	

June 2017 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Bill Taylor Andrea Engen	2 Naomi Dorau	3
4 Susan Doyscher Theo Lewis	5 Thomas Nelson	6 Sally Muraski	7	8	9	10 Shannon Thorson Wyatt Schussler
11	12 John Holmgren	13 Paisley Jo Bishop	14	15	16 Sean Rooney Maxine Pfeiffer	17
18	19 Lee Matejka	20	21 Cheryl Hilber	22 Pamela Murray	23 Gertrude Fox	24
25 Elizabeth McCabe Jennifer McCabe	26 Mark Engen	27 Rachel Wilson	28 Nick Ross	29 Marian Petersen	30	

"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 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:

Eleanor Stephens, died April 20

Donald Siegel, died April 6 (brother of Dave Siegel)

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

Tom Classen, Emily Willette, Andy Benjamin (friend of Renee and Chet DeSchane), Carol Evenson, 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'Neill, Helen Schadegg, Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Christine Tarzia (friend of Renee DeSchane), Larry Ross, Loren, Neubauer, Eileen Bohrer, Lloyd Sachs, Felisita Delgado, Tonia Becerra, Barb Roth, Paulette Brooks (friend Renee DeSchane), Pastor Sue Gravelle (friend of Kim Burress), Amber Thorson, Fred Grimsrud, Steve Heltne, Jane Gustafson, Loren Neubauer, Kay Roberts, Finley Doyle (great granddaughter of Sally Muraski), Yvonne Morency, Kelsey Breitkruetz, Emersyn Kay Johnson, Clementine Brown, Kyla Henderson (friend of Amber Thorson), Renee Edmunds, 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, Kim Burress, Kelly Dohmen, Kris Jore, Miranda McLagan (great niece of Jane and Clint McLagan), Mary Morness, Dale Knutson (nephew of Jane Gustafson)

Hospice:

Darleen Heltne

Prayers of Thanksgiving: