

# September Bell Echoes

## Bethesda Lutheran Church



### †WORSHIP SCHEDULE†

9:00am Worship

9:25am Sunday School

10:30am Contemporary Worship

***Let's get ready for Bethesda's Mission Sunday on  
September 11– 9:30am (ONE Service Only)  
God's Work, Our Hands.***

*One of 5 different Mission projects will be packaging laundry detergent for food shelf clients.*

*Donations of dry laundry detergent would be appreciated!!!*

*Plan now to join in on our Fall Kick Off Mission Festival*

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](mailto:bethesdalutheran@msn.com)



Bethesda Lutheran Church ELCA

*September 2016 Pastor's Page*

## **"God's Contagious Love"**



Dear Bethesda Family and Friends,

*For we cannot keep from speaking about  
what we have seen and heard."  
Acts 4:20*

God's love is so amazing, so profound that it cannot be contained! It touches our hearts and lives in ways that impact and transform how we see and understand life's challenges and joys. That's the reason we are called and invited to pass this amazing message on to others.

Just last week my siblings and their families gathered to surround my 87 year old Mom as she deals with the latest challenge in her life. She received a recent diagnosis of esophageal cancer. She is still undergoing tests to determine specifically what she is dealing with and what the best options are as she considers treatment and going forward from here. Mom expressed it quite well when she said, "I just never thought I would be facing this now at my age."

Needless to say, we are all questioning and wondering . . . "What specifically are we dealing with? Why now? What are Mom's choices going forward? How can we be most helpful and supportive? How can we together manage what is yet to come? These questions and many more are still ahead of us as a family and I know that many of you in our Bethesda family have been down this road before or are facing health challenges at this very moment. It is difficult, and at times overwhelming as it threatens to bring out the both the best and the worst in each of us.

Last week 25 family members gathered together around Mom in love and support amidst the uncertainty that lies ahead. We did what we seem to know best . . . we shared a meal and storytelling that is part of all our gatherings. We offered prayers along with heartfelt affirmations of Mom for who she is in each of our lives.

Without even realizing it we shared something more. In the days after that gathering, nine people from my extended family came down with a rather nasty flu bug. Cathy and I were both casualties to this fast spreading bug. It has been very contagious and frustrating as it impacts our ability and energy level for the circumstances we are now facing together with Mom. I know that it frustrates me as it zaps my energy and stops me from doing things the way I normally can. But it has also forced me to slow down and as a result take time to think and ponder some of what lies ahead. It has caused me to literally stop and contemplate the gift my family is and to realize that I also have an extended church family, a community that I cherish and count on for loving support in times just like this.

What I have discovered this time around is that as much as a flu bug is contagious, the gift of God's love expressed within a community of faith is even more contagious in wonderful ways. Thank you Bethesda for the ways in which you remind me of the gift of God's grace that is

surprising every day . . . that is easy to overlook until we find ourselves in challenging places . . . and then when it gets difficult, we need reminders of just how powerful God's love really is! Thank you for your hugs, your prayers, your encouragement and your support especially as we all live into some of the uncertainties of the future. Thank you for the ways in which you express *God's Contagious Love* that are tangible and real.

As we continue this journey of faith I hope and pray that you are discovering more and more of what God is calling you to be about. What kind of contagious life is God calling you to? What kind of challenges, perhaps even trials, is God using to bring about your transformation? Will you trust God to bring you through it? May you be willing to follow where ever God leads you, knowing that nothing can hold back the infectious power of Christ's love! And may we as a community always be willing to share the love and support needed to deal with life in all its complexities.

Sharing in the journey of God's contagious love with you,

*Pastor Terry D. Nordheim*

Pastor Terry

***Mark your calendars now so that you can be part of our upcoming fall kickoff event . . .***

## ***God's Work, Our Hands***



When: Sunday, Sept. 11th 9:30am for a Worship and Service Event  
Where: Bethesda Lutheran Church

The story of God's Love keeps changing the world, as it touches hearts through those who love and serve others. The story of God's love cannot be contained. Join us as we come together to become a church with infectious energy, action and a deep commitment to Christ.

We welcome people of all ages, for an empowering, uplifting time together!

*"Our mission is to connect, grow and serve with the love of Jesus Christ."*

***Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.***

*Ephesians 3:20-21*

# 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

Greetings Women Of Bethesda, We had a wonderful turn out for the August 9th general meeting. There was some great brainstorming about the upcoming year, starting with our Kick off dinner and program: Tuesday, September 13, 5:30 with dinner at 6:00.

Please share with us what you want our group to look like AND What makes you want to share God's Contagious Love?

Sisters in Christ,  
Cheryl Hilber & Robin Ross

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Women's Southeast Cluster Event**  
The Southeast cluster consists of 15 ELCA churches from the St. Paul Area Saturday, Oct. 1 at 9:00, Continental Breakfast

Registration at 8:45, cost: \$4.00  
Location: Luther Memorial, SSP  
Speaker: Cathy Nordheim  
Topic: "Living in Peace in Chaotic Times". Check the women's board for more details. If you have any questions see Naomi Dorau.

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Wednesday morning 9:30 bible study will start again October 12th. Watch for details regarding bible study topic-- contact Sharon Stanefski to join this group or just show up!
- **Book Club** will resume in October. We will continue to use "Book in Bag" through the public library where we receive 10 copies. Due to other Tuesday events we will have the book club discussion the 2nd Monday of each month. If you would like to be a part of the book club and get a copy of the book contact Robin Ross. The first book will be handed out the first or second week of September with our book club meeting Monday, October 10th at 6:30 for discussion.

## Contact Information

Cheryl Hilber 651-428-8949 [hilber@aol.com](mailto:hilber@aol.com)  
Robin Ross 651-210-5472 [robin.ross@icloud.com](mailto:robin.ross@icloud.com)  
[Womenofbethesda@gmail.com](mailto:Womenofbethesda@gmail.com)

Watch for emails regarding upcoming events!



## 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

## WHAT'S NEXT

**Women's Fall Kick Off Event:**  
Tuesday, September 13, see signup sheet on bulletin board for more details

Mark your calendar for two important dates  
**October 11, 6 30,**  
Women's Fellowship  
"Superwoman Night"---  
more details to come.

**November 12, Boutique**  
9-3pm. This is the women's major fundraiser and we need lots of help to make it successful.

Hey Ladies,  
It's the Women's  
Fall Kickoff Dinner!

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

Please come and bring  
a friend!

**TUESDAY**

**September 13, 2016**

**5:30pm social time**

**5:50pm dinner**

**Salad Bar**

**Artisan Breads**

**Sign up sheet on  
bulletin board**





## **Bethesda Missions**

**ILAG Guatemalan Mission**

**Neighbor's Inc.**

**Feed My Starving Children**

**Mission Trip Scholarship Fund**

### ***Mission Focus for September*** **Outreach to Others**

## **Make a Difference Sunday Mission Festival**

**God's Work our Hands!**

**September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M.**

***During our annual Mission Festival Worship Service on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will truly be using our hands in the service of others. We will praise and worship God as we come to the help of those in need.***

There will be five service areas set up in Bethesda's sanctuary. The service activities will focus on the Missions of ILAG, Neighbor's Inc., Feed My Starving Children, feeding the homeless and Sunday School. We will be using our hands in service to God by making sandwiches for the homeless, packaging corn, "Seeds of Faith", to support Guatemala in the drought, packaging laundry detergent for Neighbors Food Shelf and working on the Sunday School service project.

Please help us get ready for this event by bringing donated personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, toilet paper, bar soap and powdered laundry soap or laundry soap packets) to church by September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Remember that Jesus holds us fast as we hold one another!**

Upcoming events include: Hope Lodge -Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, leave church at 4:30 pm

Neighbor's Food Shelf- Oct. 18th

Feed My Starving Children- Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am & 6:30 pm



Sunday September 11, 2016

@ 9:30am

**Bethesda Lutheran Church**  
**“God’s Work, Our Hands”**

**Mission Festival Sunday!**

Join us for this time of singing, praying, and working together to make a faith-filled impact for others!

Woven into our worship, will be opportunities to provide service to people in need. Various stations will be set up throughout the sanctuary; serving our congregation, community, and the world.

- \* Neighbor’s – Providing food for the hungry
- \* SALT - (Serving And Learning Together) – Groups to support our members
- \* Sandwiches for the homeless – Delivered in the Twin Cities
- \* Guatemala - ILAG - Support for the drought. – “Seeds of Faith”
- \* Sunday School Program – Introducing the childrens service project -

We will be doing follow up service (our hands) to the community (God’s work) the Third Tuesday of each month, as follows:

**Hope Lodge:** September 20, 2016

**Neighbors:** October 18th, 2016

**Feed My Starving Children:** November 15, 2016

Imagine what our entire congregation can do, as we serve in mission together!

The SMOREs Committee

# Youth News at Bethesda

SEPTEMBER 2016



## Upcoming Youth Events

### Upcoming Events:

- ◆ *Confirmation Family Orientation, September 7 at 6:00 p.m.*
- ◆ *Confirmation classes start September 14 at 6:00 p.m.*
- ◆ *On September 25th, our youth will be sharing stories about their Mission Trip to St. Louis this past July.*



Watch the Youth Board for other upcoming events.

**Wreath Sales will begin Wednesday, September 7th. Check with a youth member to place an order.**

## Thanks Beth!

We want to take this opportunity to give Beth McCabe a giant thanks for all that she has done with the youth this summer. From the Mission Trip, to VBS, to Wednesday night hang out time, what a great leader you are.

Contact the youth team with any questions!

Kim Burress: [kburress@msn.com](mailto:kburress@msn.com) or 651-457-7080 or 651-260-3922

Beth McCabe: [emccabe@gustavus.edu](mailto:emccabe@gustavus.edu)

JaimeAnn Ross: [jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com](mailto:jaime.ann.ross@gmail.com) or call/text 651-353-6793



## **Sunday School News- September**

We want to welcome you back to Sunday School. The Fall Kick Off is set for Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The worship service will be filled with mission activities. There will be an opportunity that day for families to register their children for class. The first day of Sunday School will be September 18<sup>th</sup> 9:25 to 10:15. The children's sermons will continue at the 9 am worship with children being dismissed after to go to Sunday School.

We are currently in need of more teachers. Ideally, 4 additional teachers would allow the current model of 2 classes to continue. The responsibility of the teachers would be teaching every third month. Please prayerfully consider joining the team. Our curriculum will remain the same. We feel the Whirl curriculum is easy to run and the children enjoy the video learnings.

Our Schedule for the next month is:

September 11<sup>th</sup> - Fall Kick off -opportunity to register for class

September 18<sup>th</sup> -First full class 9:25 to 10:15

September 25<sup>th</sup> -Regular class 9:25 to 10:15

If you are interested in joining the team please come to our planning meeting on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Your Sunday School Team,

Robert and Jennifer McCabe

Phone 651-552-7232

Email [jsmccabe2003@hotmail.com](mailto:jsmccabe2003@hotmail.com)



## Bethesda's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Award Winning Booya

Saturday - September 10<sup>th</sup>

Starting at 11:00 until gone or 3:00

As a member of Bethesda, **we ask your help** in making our 2016 Booya another success. **You can help by donating ingredients to the Booya.** If we don't get donations of all ingredients, the rest have to be purchased and that reduces our profits. All profits will be given to Bethesda to the General Fund and Deficit. We also accept cash donations and we can do the shopping.

**Sign up is in the Narthex at Church.** If you want to find what is still needed, please call Sally Muraski at 651-451-3465 Remember to bring your ingredients to the church **no later than 9:00 AM Friday morning. If you can, but we prefer you drop your donations off by Thursday evening.** The church is open until about 6:00 but if you need someone to open the church for you, call Sally Muraski at 651-451-3465 and I will meet you there.

**If you can help clean the vegetables,** we meet on Friday morning at 9:00 to clean, dice and slice. All help is GREATLY appreciated. Bring your favorite knife, peeler or cutting board.

**Bake Sale, also a part of the Booya.** Donations to the bake sale also are GREATLY appreciated. Sign up also in the Narthex but bring to the church on Thursday evening or Friday morning.

**Signs are ready and are in the Narthex.** Please stop by and pick up one if you can put it in a place where the public can see. If you put in a public place, it should go up right after Labor Day. Remember to pick them up again as soon as you can after the Booya.

**We set up Saturday morning around 9:00 and clean-up is in the afternoon about 3:00 – all help will be appreciated.**

**We will be representing Bethesda at the Booya competition "On The Road" October 1<sup>st</sup>.**



# Treasurer's Report

July, 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
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>(\$18,066.85)</b>
Capital	21,203.78
Parking Lot	122,322.07
Mortgage Reduction	1,374.28
Sunday School	861.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	0.00
Dedicated Memorial	16,725.85
Undedicated Memorial	1,356.00
Garden Party	<b>(988.94)</b>
Special Appeals In/Out	2,618.62
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	230.00
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	1,463.08
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,348.59
Luther Dell Scholarships	1,377.14
Hohle Scholarship	97.25
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,229.52
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	91,767.00
Missions	3,485.25
Tech Team	99.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	2,845.48
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	2,458.97
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,348.77
Special Appeal - Tax Assessment	0.00
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b><u>\$ 266,992.39</u></b>

Statement of Activities	July	Year-To-Date
<b>Income:</b>		
Envelopes	\$ 19,169.00	\$ 113,146.00
Loose	154.00	1,783.95
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	1,208.05
Other General Fund	16.10	5,991.42
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	963.00
Preschool Rent	825.00	5,570.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	4,300.00
Coffee Fund	134.00	956.46
<b>Total General Fund Income:</b>	<b>\$ 20,298.10</b>	<b>\$ 133,918.88</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Salary Expense	\$ 13,214.33	\$ 91,964.20
Non-Salary General & Administrative	321.25	9,316.06
Property	1,336.70	24,708.85
Worship And Music	79.99	1,641.81
Education	0.00	423.96
Youth	24.52	574.09
Outreach	0.00	377.80
Stewardship	0.00	0.00
ELCA Mission Support	0.00	0.00
Camp Wapogasset	0.00	0.00
<b>Total General Fund Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 14,976.79</b>	<b>\$ 129,006.77</b>

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 2,559.81
Mission Investment Mort.	443,625.82
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	13,233.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$ 459,418.63</u></b>

# September 2016

*October Events: October 1st  
October 1st  
October 10th  
October 11th  
October 18th*

*On the Road Again  
SE Cluster Meeting—Luther Memorial  
Book Club—6:30pm  
Women's Fellowship—"Superwoman Night"  
Neighbors Food Shelf*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg.	2	3
4 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service *	5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Property Team 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	7 5:30pm Cub Scout #540 6:00pm Confirmation Parent Orientation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00am Bible Study	9	10 11:00am Booya and Bake Sale
11 17th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Mission/Fall Kick Off</i> 9:30am Worship Service  5:30pm Cub Scouts #540	12 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13 10:00am Prayer Group 5:30pm Women's Fall Kick Off	14 11:00am Mobile Meals 5:30pm Cub Scout #540 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg.	16	17
18 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service * 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship  5:30pm Cub Scouts #540	19 1:00pm Quilting B's	20 10:00am Prayer Group 4:30pm Women-Hope Lodge	21 5:30pm Cub Scout #540 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 10:00am Bible Study	23	24
25 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service 9:25am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship  5:30pm Cub Scouts #540	26	27 10:00am Prayer Group	28 5:30pm Cub Scout #540 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm NO Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	

# September 2016 Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Kalie Young	2 Theresa Goff Gabrielle Rosati	3
4 Cody Weisser	5	6 Thomas Muraski Christian Delgado	7	8	9	10 Theresa Staehnke
11	12	13 Brittany Young	14	15 Melissa Holmgren	16	17 Shane Kupfer Chester DeSchane
18	19 Diane Bratten	20	21	22	23	24
25 Justin Murray Lloyd Sachs	26 Barbara Brennan Janet Petersen Danny Doyscher Augustus Schussler	27 Rick Coursolle Gwendolyn Coursolle	28 Christopher Atkinson	29 Jennifer Tiedman	30	

I would like to thank Jane Walker's son, Ryan. He has been taking care of the large cross on Bethesda's north hill. Not only has Ryan replaced the lights as needed, but he has also cleaned the grounds surrounding the cross. As most of you know, the cross was purchased and installed back in the AAL days and I had been taking care of it. However, the time came when I had to admit "I just can't do this anymore" so I really appreciate Ryan's good work. THANK YOU, RYAN AND GOD BLESS!!!  
*Loren Neubauer*

## **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:**

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

***Andy Benjamin (friend of Renee and Chet DeSchane), Loren Neubauer, Dave Siegel, Jane Walker, Lorna Hohle, Orville Gunderson (uncle of Pastor Terry), 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, 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:**

***Jennifer Zubulake (hospice care) (niece of Ray Morency), Fred Grimsrud, Addy Nordheim (mother of Pastor Terry), Shirley Wamstad (friend of Clarence and Lucille Sharrow), Richard Johnson (uncle of Renee DeSchane), Mary Jacobs, Emily Willette, Julie Swedberg, Irene Zamora, Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), Sarah Engedal, Martin Zuniga (uncle of Dan and Amy Delgado), John Sargent, Judy Carney (sister of Naomi Dorau), Jennifer Zubulake (niece of Ray Morency), Jane Gustafson, Sue Linn, Kim Burress, Nicole Weiss (granddaughter of Chet and Renee DeSchane), Mary Ann Dalton (friend of Theresa Staehnke), Mary Lou Olson (friend of 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, Sue Cavalier (friend of Jennifer Tiedman), Dale Knutson (nephew of Jane Gustafson)***

#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving:**