

September Bell Echoes Bethesda Lutheran Church



Sunday, September 3

9:30am Traditional Worship Service

Wednesday, September 6

6:30pm Confirmation-Parent Orientation

Friday, September 8

9:00am Booya Preparation

Saturday, September 9

11:00am Bethesda BOOYA

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS

Sunday, September 10

9:00am Traditional Worship Service

Sunday School

10:30am Contemporary Worship Service

Wednesday, September 13

6:30pm Confirmation Begins

Pastor's Message

September, 2017

Bethesda's call committee has been diligently doing its work, and as I write this article, it appears that they have found a candidate that they are very interested in to be called as pastor.

In anticipation of calling a new pastor, which may be very soon (watch for the notices of a congregational meeting for the purpose to vote to call a pastor), I propose that we have an all congregation study on mission. I have consulted with our worship leaders Gary Johnson, Ann Siegel and Jacob Backman, and I have run this idea by our church council.

The times of the study on mission will be right during both the traditional and contemporary worship services in three Sundays in September. The services will be adapted to accommodate the study, but the services will last no longer than an hour.

These are the planned themes:

Sept. 10th – shifting as church from being consumers of religion to becoming servants. [Philippians 2:1-11]

Sept. 17th – building on the gifts in the congregation.
[1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11]

Sept. 24th – pray for clarity in Bethesda's calling. [Acts 10]

An added feature to September 24th will be a presentation by Jennifer Tiedman and Dave Hohle about their recent visit to our companion congregation, El Milagro de Dios in Las Rosas, Guatemala. That presentation will be between the traditional and contemporary services.

It will be an exciting fall at Bethesda. You won't want to miss out on what we will be doing together during those days and weeks ahead.

Blessings! Pastor Ralph



Bethesda Missions

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

Mission Focus for October Outreach to Others

ELCA Global Church Month

Each year, more than 225 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America missionaries serve in more than 40 countries around the world. They are sent by the ELCA in response to invitations from our companion churches and serve in a variety of roles, working alongside our companions to proclaim the gospel, raise up leaders, care for those in need and learn new ways of being a church together. Together we are building up Christ's global church. This month we are celebrating missionaries and young adults in Global Mission. More than 95 Young Adults in Global Mission serve in 11 country programs each year. Make checks payable to "ELCA Global Church Sponsorship"; Young Adults in global missions on memo line.

Come, let us gather in the one unifying Spirit, the Spirit of God in the church throughout the world. There is one body and one Spirit one Lord, one faith, one baptism one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. Come, let us gather in the one unifying Spirit. Let us gather in unity with our sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Guatemala Mission Trip Presentation

Join Jennifer and Dave on September 24th in the chapel between services for a presentation on the June mission trip to Guatemala.

Needed for Neighbor's Inc. - Please help us by bringing donated personal care items (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, toilet paper, bar soap and powdered laundry soap or laundry soap packets) to church for packaging and distribution later this year.

Food for Friends

Meals are available in the Caring Corner in the library (freezer and food cupboard). Do you know of a need? Please take and deliver!

Our SMORE team would LOVE to have contagious people join us!! Come to our meetings any time. We typically meet the first Thursday of the month, our next meeting will be Sept. 7th at 6:30pm. It's a great group to hang out with. We get excited about God's plans for Bethesda and its members!



SEPTEMBER 2017

"WALK IN LOVE, AS CHRIST HAS
LOVED US" Ephesians 5:2

GREETINGS WOMEN OF BETHESDA

Greetings,

OUR FALL KICK OFF theme is "Falling in Love With Jesus" - and they came and fell at his feet" *Mark 7:25*. Fall is the most beautiful season of the year. Already the trees are changing colors and birds are flocking to fly south. The date for this event is September 12th at 6:00 pm. Dinner will include baked potatoes with toppings and salad with fixings. There will be a freewill offering at dinner. Please invite friends, family, and all that may enjoy being together. Sign up on the Women's Bulletin Board so we have a count for dinner. There will also be a recipe exchange, so bring up to 10 recipe cards if you would like to participate. Come & SHARE your LOVE for JESUS and EACH OTHER!!!

Sisters in Christ,

Nancy Todd & Dianna Houska

UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Club: Our September 19th 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!

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

Contact Information

Dianna Houska 651-493-0129 dianna.houska@gmail.com
Nancy Todd 651-455-2982 nancytodd19@yahoo.com
Womenofbethesda@gmail.com



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

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

We will start again in
October.

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

WHAT'S NEXT

Movie Night
"The Shack"
Tue. Oct. 24th
6:30 pm

Boutique
Sat. Nov. 11th
9am-3pm

**Advent Appetizers
and Program**
Tue. Dec. 5th
6:00 pm

Women's Ministry Board Members

Co presidents:
Dianna Houska &
Nancy Todd

Co-vice presidents:
Jane Walker
Renee Deshane

Secretary:
Naomi Dorau

Treasurer:
Jennifer Tiedman

Bulletin board design:
Naomi Dorau
Sharon Stanefski

Boutique spaces:
Lynette Thorson

Cookies for Shut-ins:
Dawn Sargent
Danielle Courselle

Additional Advisors:
Marsha Morgan
Sally Muraski

Bell Echoes Editor:
Pattie Rooney

ReFresh & ReNew Chairs:
Cheryl Hilber
Robin Ross
Sharon Stanefski



Youth News at Bethesda

SEPTEMBER 2017



Let's go rock climbing!

Our Youth outing for September will be a trip to Vertical Endeavors. Vertical Endeavors operates some of the largest facilities in the nation with multiple locations throughout the Midwest. Participants of all ages and abilities can climb throughout the year in a climate controlled environment. Routes are available for all skill levels and offer a great workout, both physically and mentally.

We will be going there on Sunday, September 10th. The cost for this event is \$12 for members and \$22 for non-members. Please meet at Bethesda at 11:45 and we will be returning around 2:45. Please contact Jacob for additional information.

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ *Sept. 6th, Confirmation meeting*
- ◆ *Sept. 10th Vertical Endeavors*
- ◆ *Sept. 13th Confirmation starts*



Confirmation

Our Confirmation classes will be starting on Sept. 13th. Confirmation is for students who will be in grades 6-8 this Fall. We are asking that our Confirmation students and their parents please attend the informational meeting on Wednesday, September 6th at 6:30.



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

Sunday School News- September

Welcome back!

I hope you are still holding onto the excitement from VBS, "A Mighty Fortress". It was good to see so many of the Sunday School kids at the program.

Sunday School this year will begin on Sunday, September 10th. Remember the worship services will be 9 am and 10:30 am. There are no Come Together worship service times. Plan to register your children for Sunday School that day.

I will be leaving the role as Sunday School Coordinator and teacher. It has been a very blessed experience and as I have taught the children I feel they have also taught me. I want to thank the volunteers that helped over the years as substitutes and as regular teachers. I also want to thank the congregation for their continued support of the program. Your kind words and prayers were much appreciated.

I am happy to announce that Mindie Schussler has agreed to be the Sunday School Coordinator. Her contact information is:

Phone number: Home 651-451-2995 and email mindie.schussler@gmail.com.

The Sunday School team will need more teachers so I encourage you to pray about this and consider helping teach our children. Please contact Mindie if you can help with teaching, even if it is only intermittently that you can help.

Blessings,
Jennifer McCabe

IMPORTANT NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will hold a special congregational meeting on September 17, 2017 at 10:00am following the first service. This special meeting will be to approve the Call Committee and Council recommendations to call a new pastor to Bethesda and approve the compensation package for the new pastor. It is **very important** for you to attend as this vote on a new pastor will pave the way for Bethesda's future. The Contemporary Service will follow the special meeting.

Thanks in advance for your attendance.

Theresa Staehnke, Council President

Treasurer's Report

July, 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 consisting of the monthly payroll withholding, the renovation mortgage balance and the Tax Assessment loan with the Thoring Fund.

Please contact Gary Johnson with any questions.

All Funds	Balance
	<u>(27,692.61)</u>
General Fund	\$0.00
Capital	27,628.78
Parking Lot	121,460.45
Mortgage Reduction	6,023.69
Sunday School	682.37
Altar Flowers Fund In/Out	78.75
Dedicated Memorial	3,250.00
Undedicated Memorial	2,020.04
Garden Party	148.56
Special Appeals In/Out	4,403.51
Wedding	140.00
Vacation Bible School	180.42
Contemporary Choir	855.00
Thoring Income	1,666.67
Bethesda Resource Center	584.74
Bible Fund	200.00
Choir	1,531.81
Youth Mission Trip	611.94
Youth Faith Based Activities	1,518.17
Youth Camp Travel Fund	656.59
Hohle Scholarship	0.00
Timmy Autey Camp Scholarship	2,735.13
Christian Care Fund	836.23
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	93,627.00
Missions	2,588.25
Tech Team	525.62
Mission Trip Scholarship - ILAG	2,036.84
Mission Trip Scholarship - Youth	1,902.36
Sidewalk Fund	423.88
Rain Gardens Fund	2,548.77
New Sign Fund	5,751.00
Total All Funds	<u><u>\$ 290,598.30</u></u>

Statement of Activities	June	Year-To-Date
Income:		
Envelopes	\$ 15,794.00	\$ 96,503.50
Loose	114.00	1,931.45
Adopt-A-Bill	0.00	63.00
Other General Fund	31.68	644.12
Thrivent Dollars	0.00	1,444.00
Preschool Rent	925.00	6,255.00
Fund Raisers	0.00	4,586.00
Coffee Fund	70.00	582.66
Total General Fund Income:	<u><u>\$ 16,934.68</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 112,009.73</u></u>
Expenses:		
Salary Expense	\$ 9,551.54	\$ 74,161.60
Non-Salary General & Administrative	269.39	9,419.35
Property	1,830.67	27,220.39
Worship And Music	0.00	1,372.08
Education	0.00	509.98
Youth	0.00	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:	<u><u>\$ 11,651.60</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 112,923.41</u></u>

Liabilities	Balance
Payroll Withholding	\$ 1,651.14
Thrivent Financial Mortgage	432,544.83
Thoring Loan (Tax Assessment)	11,373.00
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$445,568.97</u></u>

Average monthly income needed to make 2017 budget:	\$ 17,551.25
Current month General Fund income:	\$ 16,934.68
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Income:	\$ 16,001.39
Average actual Year-To-Date General Fund Expense:	\$ 16,131.92



Bethesda's 10th Annual **Award Winning Booya** Saturday - September 9th

We start serving at 11:00 (or earlier if done) until gone or 3:00

As a member of Bethesda, **we ask your help** in making our 2017 Booya a another success. **You can help by donating ingredients and helping on Saturday.** 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 Kay at 651-451-1355. 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. Ann Siegel has graciously agreed to coordinate the sale.

Signs will be ready by August 25th and in the Narthex. Please stop by and pick up one or more 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. This is a real fun day for Bethesda.

We will be representing Bethesda at the Booya competition “On The Road” October 7th. Last year we took 1st place in this competition and our cash award also went to the deficit.



September 2017

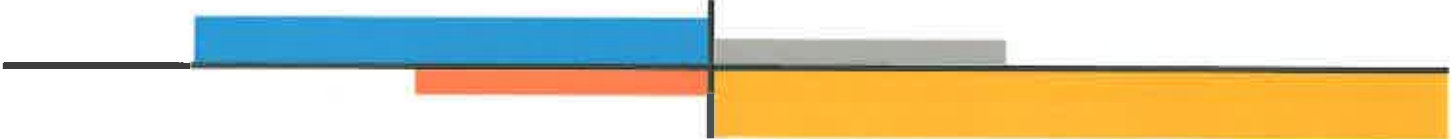
October Events: October 7

On the Road Again

Note: No Congregational Meeting in October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship Service*	4 LABOR DAY	5 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Property Team 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	6 6:30pm Confirmation-Parent Orientation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	7 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm SMORE Mtg	8 9:00am Preparation for Booya	9 11:00am Bethesda Booya
10 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:45am Youth-Vertical Endeavors	11 6:30pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	12 10:00am Prayer Group 5:00pm Executive Team Meeting 6:00pm Women's Fall Meeting 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	13 11:00am Mobile Meals 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	14 10:00am NO Bible Study	15	16
17 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service* Sunday School 10:00am Congregational Mtg. 10:30am Worship Service*	18 1:00pm Quilting B's 6:30pm Boy Scouts	19 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Book Club Bell Echoes Due	20 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	21 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg	22 6:00pm-9:00pm LuLaRoe	23 10:00pm-1:00pm LuLaRoe
24 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am Worship Service Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	25 6:30pm Boy Scouts	26 10:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal	27 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	28 10:00am NO Bible Study	29	30

September 2017 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 Theresa Staehnke
10	11	12	13	14 Bittany Young	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 Agustus Schussler	27 Rick Coursolle Gwendolyn Coursolle	28 Christopher Atkins	29 Jennifer Tiedman	30

In July we emailed a survey to members asking about the Come Together Sundays.

We were happy to receive 46 responses.

Our main question was, "Are you in favor of discontinuing the Come Together Sunday Service?" 31 (67%) replied yes and 15 replied no (32%)

We also asked for suggestions for Come Together events. We got some great suggestions and will be looking at how to incorporate them.

Additional comments were also welcomed.

As a result of this survey and council discussion, this fall we will have 2 services each Sunday at 9:00 and 10:30.

If you would like to see all the survey results, they will be posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

"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:

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

Loren Neubauer, 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, Ardie Bratten, Gloria Johnson, Ronald Willerton, Bill O'Neill, Helen Schadegg, Dorothy Nelson, Lovina Gustafson, Tom Muraski, Marian Petersen

For those with health concerns:

Donna Neubauer, John Sargent, Donna Johnson, Kim Burress, Brian Ginsbach (cousin of Ann Siegel), Christine Tarzia (friend of Renee DeSchane), Eileen Bohrer, Lloyd Sachs, Felisita Delgado, Tonia Becerra, Barb Roth, Paulette Brooks (friend of Renee DeSchane), Pastor Sue Gravelle (friend of Kim Burress), Amber Thorson, Jane Gustafson, Kay Roberts, Finley Doyle (great granddaughter of Sally Muraski), Yvonne Morency, Kelsey Breikruetz, 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, Jane Walker, Mary Jacobs, Julie Swedberg, Jerry Ohmann (friend of Jane McLagan), 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:

Larry Ross