



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
July 2022



I will make darkness
light before them,
and crooked things straight.

These things
will I do unto them,
and not forsake them.

ISAIAH 42:16, KJV

In This Month's Beacon:

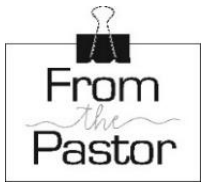
*Pastor Seth's Beacon Article

*Financial Update

*Member News

*Committee Updates

*And More



On a Potential Partnership with Rivers Edge Presbyterian Church

As you probably know, a few weeks ago, the disciples of Rivers Edge Church sent off Pastor Dennis Morreim into a full and well-deserved retirement after several years of faithful supply preaching and pastoral care. I was lucky enough to be present at their good-bye party for Pastor Dennis. It was clear to see that they loved one another, and he was rightly celebrated and thanked for his service.

Pastor Dennis and this congregation of disciples walked together through some tumultuous years. They moved through the beginnings of the pandemic together; started a new congregation that brought together the Presbyterian churches of Wrenshall and Carlton; celebrated baptisms; grieved at funerals; and sought to love God and neighbor together through all of life's challenges.

As they approached this transition, the leadership of Rivers' Edge approached me in the late spring and asked me and this congregation to consider sharing ministry with them, beginning perhaps as early as this fall or winter. This shared ministry partnership would center around sharing my time and ministry; it would also include a financial partnership in paying my salary and benefits.

At this point, we are only beginning a conversation between our

two congregations. Your council leadership has been supportive of this conversation and is committed to transparency throughout the process. Unfortunately, an outbreak of illness postponed our first scheduled meeting, but our exec team and Rivers Edge Church's core leaders will meet for the first time the week of June 27. We won't have an agreement or many details figured out from this first meeting; it will take some time.

In the meantime, I want to ensure you of a few important things.

The first is that this would be a partnership entered into freely by both congregations. Ultimately, if the conversation progresses, both congregations will vote on the final shared ministry agreement, just like you voted on the terms of my call last summer. Both our NE MN Synod and their Presbytery need to agree on the final shared ministry agreement, and they have expressed support, but to be frank, no one is pushing us into anything. It is truly up to you, the congregation, to discern and to decide.

The second is that partnering in ministry is not the same as "merging." We share a savior and a mission; yet God has given us distinct identities and particular ways of being the church, and I don't get any kind of sense that God is calling us to give up our distinctiveness as two separate congregations.

The third is that I believe this to be a tremendous opportunity for the

ministry of our congregation (and for theirs). Our shared context for mission and ministry, and our full communion partnership with the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA), may mean that God will do things with both of us that we could not do alone.

Fourth, and finally, know that your elected leaders and your pastor are committed to hearing your voices. We will host at least two listening sessions as we continue the conversation and will add more if needed. You are welcome to join our council meetings at any time. We are also available to sit down with you individually or hear from you over the phone.

May you be blessed this day by the God who lives in the hearts of people like you.

-Pastor Seth Wynands

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2022 Members of Bethesda Church Council

*President – Lynn Beatty

*Vice President – Deb Davis

*Secretary - Linda Newlon

*Treasurer - JoAnn Gustafson

Frank Curtiss

Debby Johnson

Dave Beatty

Jane Joki

Bethany Leseman

**If you have items that you wish to be addressed by council, contact a member of the Executive Committee, who sets the council agenda. You can keep up to date with church business by viewing the Council Meeting Minutes on the rotating bulletin board or view them on our website*

Financial Update			
Year to date as of 5/31/2022			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	41745.00	47584.00	(5839.00)
Non-pledged income	5848.77	2858.35	2990.42
TOTAL INCOME	47593.77	50442.35	(2848.58)
Salaries/Compensation	38955.02	41257.66	(2302.64)
General Office Expenses	3690.05	3573.30	116.75
Utilities	4676.81	4033.35	643.46
Other Expenses	1420.65	275.00	(1145.65)
Benevolence Expenses	417.56	475.84	(58.28)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	624.83	345.85	278.98
Social Ministry	135.00	135.40	(0.40)
Worship Expenses	2626.82	2966.65	(339.83)
CYFM Expenses	3754.25	5219.60	(1465.35)
TOTAL EXPENSES	52914.34	54834.75	(1920.41)
Non-pledged income includes Loose offering, Special Services, Meatball supper, Sunday School, Interest Income, etc.			
Memorial money is not included in any of the figures above.			



“Live simply....so others may simply live.”

Please continue to donate to the Salvation Army, our local food shelf, on Carlton Ave. in Cloquet. Congregation members are asked to bring non-perishable food donations to church. Gladys Sievert picks up the items and brings them to the food shelf in Cloquet each month. She reports that we are donating an average of 50 pounds a month. Keep up the good work! *For the month of July our collection focus will be paper goods; paper towels, Kleenex, and diapers.* Monetary donations are also *greatly* appreciated as a donation like this can purchase much more with the resources the Salvation Army has access to. Thank you.

The Salvation Army food shelf is very grateful for all of the donations and wanted to say a very special *thank you* for the toilet paper and diapers as they can only purchase food items through their system and need to purchase items such as paper products from the store at cost.

There will be no Council or Worship Team meeting in July.

Thank you to the meals on wheels drivers who provide meals to those in need; Lynn Beatty, Mary & George Saarela, Bob & Myrna Postal, Jeannette Korpela and Renee Kesty. Anyone interested in delivering meals please see Mary Saarela or call the church office. Thank you

We will be looking for volunteers for lawn mowing. Watch for the summer lawn mowing sign-up sheet in narthex area.

Jane Joki will be having a rummage sale July 21st, 22nd and possibly 23rd from 8am-noon.

1308 W. Carlton Ave, Cloquet.
Proceeds from the sale will be going towards gas, over the counter medication and medical co-pays.

Office Hours

Monday 8am-Noon
Thursday 8am-2pm



God’s Work, Our Hands

Sunday September 18th, 2022

If you know of someone who needs help around the yard, flower beds, etc., contact Debby Johnson 218-384-3360.

- ❖ Pastor Seth will be out of the office the week of July 10th after worship until July 16th for continuing education.
- ❖ Bishop Amy Odgren will preside with Pastor Seth at worship on July 17th.
- ❖ We are planning on an outdoor worship service in July. The date will be announced on Facebook, online and at church.
- ❖ The results for the sharing of the peace survey that was taken on June 5th was 2 to 1 in favor of continuing this part of the service.

Sheldon, Peter Allen, Barb Saarela, Dawn Saarela.



Our deepest sympathy & prayers to the family of Ernest Zinter, brother of Audrey Kavanaugh and to the family of James Hongisto who passed away June 14th. God comfort and strengthen our hearts in hope in the resurrection through Christ.

Children, Youth, Family and Ed.

There will be a CYFed. meeting on Thursday July 7th at 3:45 in the Library. All are welcome to join us.

Member News



Celebrating July Baptismal Birthdays

Taylor Anderson, Stacy Colich, Macy Hanson, Tyler Thompson, Doug Finke, Landon Hammitt, John Stradtman, Robert Chapman Sell, Tricia Hackensmith, Gracie Meagher, Andrea Kiehl, Chase Ableiter, Andrew Olesen, Keanna Simula, Chaise Jokinen, Justin Jokinen, Teresa Olson Colich, Pierce Davis, Jessica Krone, Kevin Frederick, Robert Postal, Patricia Nygren, Kevin Olesen, Charlie Wolter, Harold Ankrum, Johnny Moen, Amaija Halli, Chris Marciniak, Jason Goodwin, Janelle Bell, Amy Olesen, Bryan Bunge, Carrie Buller, Julieauna Johnson, Mark Matlack, Attlei

- *****July 3rd** ~ No Storytime
- *****July 10th** ~ Jesus Story - Children's message
- *****July 17th** ~ Storytime
- *****July 24th** ~ Jesus Story – Children's message
- *****July 31st** ~ No Storytime

2022 Tri Parish (Bethesda, Our Saviors, and Zion Lutheran churches) VBS

The 2022 Tri Parish VBS was altered this year. Instead of a three-night event, a community bon fire/wiener marshmallow roast was held on June 6 at Zion Lutheran Church. Service, with Holy communion, was led by

Pastor CJ of Zion. Ages ranged from 10 months to 91 years old.

The 50 plus in attendance enjoyed the service, fellowship and bon fire. Comments “let’s do this again”, “this was a lot of fun”, “so nice to see so many folks of all ages”

Another tri-parish/community evening worship with a bon fire, roasting event will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, later this summer.

Coffee Serving Schedule

July 3rd -Ginny’s Group

July 10th Pat’s Group

July 17th Cary’s Group

July 24th Linda ’s Group

July 31st Lil’s Group



2910 W. 3rd Street Duluth, MN.

Due to the rise in prices, we will begin offering free groceries to our community's senior citizens every Wednesday. Each bag will include, but not be limited to, oatmeal, pasta, sauce, canned tuna or chicken, soup, crackers, peanut butter, jam, bread, a pound of meat, canned or fresh fruit as donated.



Upcoming VLM Events: BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Site: Camp Vermillion

Ages: All

Cost: Free

A day of music, fellowship, food, and supporting the ministry at Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion!

Check back later for this year’s event details, but just for fun, here’s a look at last year’s prizes.

RAFFLE PRIZES 2021

First Prize - Wenonah 2020 Minnesota II Kevlar Ultralight Canoe with Internal Skid Plates (\$3,300 value)

Second Prize - 11-inch iPad Pro with Wi-Fi + Cellular, 512GB of memory (\$1500 value)

Third Prize - \$500 cash

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS

Raffle Tickets are \$10 each. Available at Camp Hiawatha, Camp Vermilion, Duluth office, or by calling [\(800\) 331-5148](tel:8003315148)

July 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 11am Bible Study	2
3 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	4 Office Closed Happy 4 th of July!	5 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	6	7 10am Office Staff Mtg 1pm Jam Group 3:45pm Children, Youth, Family & Ed. Meeting	8 11am Bible Study	9
10 9am Worship/ Children's Message (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship 3pm Interfaith Service	11	12 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 4:30 Worship Meeting 6pm Serenity Seekers	13	14 10am Office Staff Mtg	15 Beacon Deadline 11am Bible Study	16
17 9am Worship~ Bishop Amy Odgren Storytime (Fellowship Hall) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	18	19 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	20	21 10am Office Staff Mtg 1pm Jam Group 5:30pm Ladies of Kaleva	22 11am Bible Study 4:30pm Tate Wedding Rehearsal	23 3pm Tate Wedding
24 9am Worship/ Children's Message (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	25	26 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	27	28 10am Office Staff Mtg	29 11am Bible Study	30

Bethesda Lutheran Church
204 5th Street
P.O. Box 210
Carlton, MN 55718

 JULY 2022

Sunday Worship

9:00am

In House

And on Facebook

*You can also view the Beacon
on our website at*

*bethesdacarlton.org or if you
would like to have a copy
mailed or emailed to you please
contact the office.*