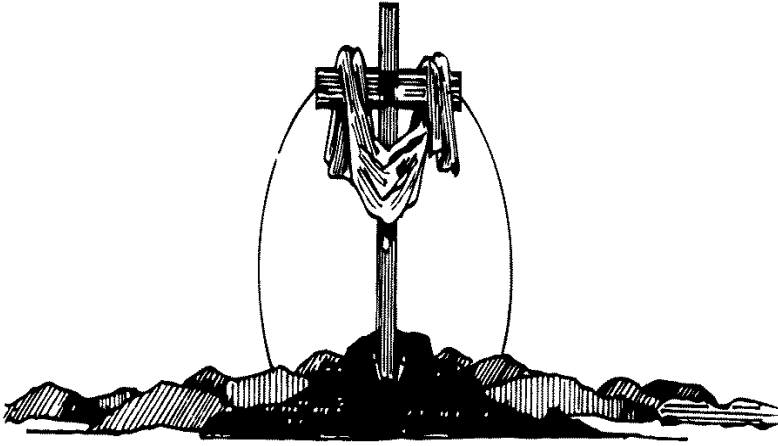




The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
April 2017



IN YOUR
PRESENCE
THERE IS
FULLNESS *of* JOY.

PSALM 16:11

May Beacon Deadline is April 15th. Please have all submissions into the office on this date. The Beacon Crew will be assembling the May newsletter on April 26th.

April at Bethesda:

~ First Communion Retreat
April 8th,
9:00 a.m.-Noon

~ Palm Sunday April 9th
with First Communion

~ Maundy Thursday Service
April 13th at 6:30 p.m.

~ Good Friday Service of
Light & Darkness April 14th
at 6:30 p.m.

~ Easter Sunday
April 16th

One Service at 9:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast Will
Follow the Service.
More Details Inside.

~ Council Meeting April 17th
at 5:30 p.m.

~ Synod Assembly April
28th-30th at Cragun's Resort

WORDS FROM OUR BRIDGE
PASTOR –



“I came as a stranger, and you welcomed me.” These words sound familiar, as I express my feelings to all the members of Bethesda. You have welcomed me with handshakes, hugs, and encouraging words, as I have begun serving as your Bridge Pastor. **THANK YOU.**

I know my ministry here at Bethesda is temporary, until you extend a call to a new pastor to serve you. In the meantime, let’s continue to worship and express our praise to the Lord on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Let us come with thanksgiving into His house, where all are welcome to pray and share in the Lord’s Supper.

I appreciate the members and friends of Bethesda who willingly serve on our committees and teams; those who prepare the Wednesday evening meals; our mentors and teachers who share their faith experiences with our young people; our worship leaders; altar care; ushers; greeters; acolytes; and all of our members who enrich the life and ministry of our congregation. It is my privilege to serve with you.

We realize that it is Lent, and we are reminded that this season is grounded in and modeled after the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. It is a time that “we lay aside those practices and material goods that lead us into temptation, and take up the full armor of God, especially scripture, prayer, almsgiving, and fasting.”

On Wednesday evenings at Bethesda soup is served at 5:30, followed by a time of sharing. The worship service begins at 6:30 when we meet in the sanctuary to experience the “Silent Witnesses” to Jesus’ suffering. The Lord’s Supper is also served. Everyone is welcome.

Thanks again for your support and encouragement as we serve our Lord together.

Pr. Dick Hane

Easter Breakfast will be served following the Service: Volunteers are greatly needed to help prepare, serve & clean up as well as donate some breakfast food items. Prayerfully consider where you may be able to help to continue this Easter Tradition. The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. Special Thanks to Curt & Andrea Kiehl and their daughters for their continued willingness to coordinate this Special Easter Fellowship. Please HELP!!!

Financial Update			
Year-to-date ending 02/28/2017			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	\$20,516.00	\$20,000.00	\$516.00
Non-pledged income	\$1,408.00	\$1,250.00	\$158.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$21,924.00	\$21,250.00	\$674.00
Salaries/Compensation	\$4,925.33	\$6,454.04	(\$1,528.71)
General Office Expenses	\$511.46	\$1,550.00	(\$1,038.54)
Utilities	\$2,543.82	\$1,883.32	\$660.50
Other Expenses	\$28.74	\$2,538.32	(\$2,509.58)
Benevolence Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	(\$1,600.00)
Education Expenses	\$136.96	\$162.34	(\$25.38)
Evangelism Expenses	\$122.92	\$55.00	\$67.92
Property Expenses	\$19.40	\$533.34	(\$513.94)
Stewardship Expenses	\$0.00	\$83.34	(\$83.34)
Worship Expenses	\$625.65	\$300.00	\$325.65
Youth Expenses	\$400.00	\$66.66	\$333.34
Choir Music Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9,314.28	\$15,226.36	(\$5,912.08)
Net Income	\$12,609.72	\$6,023.64	\$6,586.08
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.			



Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, cards and concern during this time. It has really made a difference.

~ Marnie Emerson

Bethesda Staff

Office 218-384-4501

Pastor Dick Hane, Bridge Pastor

218- 729-9114

Bobbie McCorison, Secretary

218-384-4501

Alice Kloepfer, Custodian

Cathy Dale, Accompanist

Chris Kuras, Financial Sec.

218-491-3546

Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church

204 5th St – PO Box 210

Carlton MN 55718

Email: bethesda55718@msn.com

Website: www.bethesdacarlton.org

Visit our Synod's Site at

www.nemnsynod.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The office hours will vary at times so if you are making a special trip to the church please call ahead so I can make sure I will be available to let you in or assist you in any way if needed.



Women's Bible Study will now meet on Tuesday's at 5:45.

**2017 Members of Bethesda
Church Council**

*President – Sue Frank

*Vice President – Duane Soukkala

*Secretary - Linda Newlon

*Treasurer - Beth Leseman

Dave Beatty

Lynn Beatty

Stacy Colich

Jason Goad

Jon Kolb

Jen Kuras

Ryan Swanson

**If you have items that you wish to be addressed by council, contact a member of the Executive Committee, who sets the council agenda. The Executive Committee consists of these officers. They also serve as the Personnel Committee. You can keep up to date with church business by viewing the Council Meeting Minutes which are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office or view them on our website*

Merlea Mrozik, Briar Mrozik, Hahna Hakala, Samantha Thompson, Scott Thompson, Karen Klein, Terry Skutevik, Colton Clark, Melissa Clark, Sean Clark, Wesley Harden, Brynlee Baasch, Spencer Thorman & Tanner Thorman.



We welcomed into the family of faith through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 26th, Sullivan Matthew Kiehn son of Fletcher & Christina Kiehn.



Our deepest sympathy to the families of Geri Andresen, James Skutevik and Larry House. God's promises of resurrection bring comfort and hope in Christ the risen savior.



**Celebrating April
Baptismal Birthdays:**

Steve Colich, Vance Moench, Kristal Hanson, Sharon Bragge, Terrance Radtke, Colin Emerson, Patricia Durkee, Brittany Dahl-Holm, Craig Schmitz, Matthew Moench, Ross Soukkala, Lindsey Dahl-Holm, Liam Meagher, Makenzie Simula, Desiree Sheda, Cassidy Sheda, Molly Sheda, Curtis Martin, Myrna Postal, Lydia Kiehl, Bernie Despot, Andrew Castle, Tanner Betts, Jackson Soukkala, Oliver Soukkala, Mark Vernon, Nevada McCorison, Michael Lijewski,



Please prayerfully consider volunteering to assist at Our Easter Morning Service on Sunday, April 16th, 2017 at 9:00 am. We will need two Ushers, a Lector & two Communion by Intinction Assistants. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, contact Pat Durkee, 384-3645. Thank you for your willingness to serve.



Please consider bringing an Easter Lily or Spring Flowers "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" a Loved

One to help adorn our Easter Garden on Easter Morning, April 16th. Please have your plant at the Church by 11am on Sat April 15th. Let's fill the Sanctuary with lots of beautiful plants to add to the Beauty of Christ's Resurrection!! Please let the office know by April 10th if you are bringing a flower and who it is in "Honor" or "Memory" of. Thank you!

Everything to run a household:
-Laundry soap, laundry softener, dish soap, additional cleaning supplies and
-miscellaneous

~ **2018 pennies** will go to Adult & Youth Teen Challenge in Duluth

~ 2017 penny offerings will be collected

~ **Gathering offerings** will be split between PV for Phebe and Churchwide Women of the ELCA

WELCA

Social Ministry



**All Women of Bethesda:
Kettle River Conference Spring
Gathering
Saturday April 8th, 2017**

Theme: The Lord God is with You
Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
615-12th Street, Cloquet MN, 55720.
phone number is 218-879-1535.

The conference will begin with coffee from 9 - 9:30 a.m. and will finish with lunch at noon.

These are the items they would like to collect for the Carlton Co. youth shelter:

Greatest Need:

-Underwear: Both girls and boys, all sizes

-Miscellaneous: Toys, Shampoo, combs, brushes and conditioners



Social Ministry will be hosting coffee in support of Camp on April 2nd.



Please remember to donate to the Food Shelf

“Live simply...

so others may simply live.





Cloquet Armory
801 Highway 33 South
MN Nat'l Guard Building
Cloquet MN 55720

Day & Hours:

4th Wednesday of the Doors open at
10:00 am (Not Before)
Distribution 10:00-11:30 am
\$20.00 cash donation
Sponsored by: Minnesota National
Guard
Hosted By: Cloquet Area Churches

MISSION:

To procure and distribute corporate surplus food and goods to help fight poverty, hunger and disease in rural communities in the United States for those with low resources and in crisis through churches, food shelves and other local civic organizations. To develop the "Blessing Box" concept to activate people in being alert to the needs of others and to be proactive in encouraging, showing friendship and meeting tangible needs of struggling neighbors, friends and strangers regardless of race, religion or ethnicity.

by donating \$20 to help cover the operational cost. Ruby's Pantry has no government funding. It is primarily funded by the contributions of our guests.

Home Office
5833 Pecan St
North Branch, MN 55056
Hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
All Phone Calls: 651-674-0009
goodnews@rubyspantry.org

**Children, Youth & Family
Ministry Planning**
now meets at 3:30 p.m. the first
Thursday of each month.



First Communion will be celebrated on April 9th at the Palm Sunday service. Cake and coffee will be served following worship.



Confirmation will be celebrated on May 7th. Cake and coffee will be served following the worship service.



A special Thank You to Jean Johnson who will be taking photos for both of these events.

Ink Cartridges/Toners will no longer be a fundraiser for the Youth due to changes at the recycling center. Thank-you to all who participated in this project. Please check your local schools as they may be continuing this fundraiser. Otherwise, Best Buy or Office Max will take them at no charge.



The Synod Journey to the National Gathering will be June 23-July 2, 2018. The first adult leader meeting with the Synod is April 22, 2017. There are several Bethesda youth who have expressed interest in this event. Youth are not allowed to attend without an adult leader. We are in need of an adult leader. If you are available, please contact the church

office. An adult leader must be assigned to our group prior to April 22nd in order to participate.

The **Fishers of Men group** is participating in Verso Corporation in their shiny and white paper Collection Program as a fundraiser to allow us to “cast our nets” further and reach more people. Verso Corporation gives us \$0.10/LB for glossy printed and white paper. The proceeds are used to fund church projects and/or groups in need.

WHAT CAN BE COLLECTED:

- Magazines
- Catalogs
- Shiny newspaper inserts (examples: Target, Kohl’s, JCP ads, etc.) and white copy paper

UNACCEPTABLE:

No newspapers
No plain/semi-gloss newspaper inserts (examples: Menards ads, Parade magazine Section, etc.)
No garbage
No wet or saturated material
No plastic bags (Must use the white bags in entryway or brown paper bags)



Faith on the Go

Pray

God our Rock, teach us to anchor our lives in you. God our Bread, feed us with the living words that bring us closer to you. Christ our Savior, have mercy on us. Amen

Connect

Where did you see God today? Where did you need God today?

Bible

John 3:1-17 – Nicodemus Visits Jesus

Chat

Day 1

John 3:1-2

Nicodemus probably came at night to avoid being seen. What do you think made Nicodemus so curious that he would do something he felt was so dangerous? Have you ever taken a risk for something that you knew was the right thing to do?

Day 2

John 3:3-8

Re-read verse 8. Jesus uses the image of wind blowing through our lives to describe the Spirit of God and people born of the Spirit. Why is this a good image? Why is it not?

Day 3

John 3:9-12

Have you heard the phrase, “Seeing is believing?” How do you think Jesus feels about that? What are some things that we cannot see but that we know are there?

Day 4

John 3:13-15

Read Numbers 21:8-9. We know what is going to happen to Jesus even if Nicodemus does not. What do you think Jesus means when he talks about Moses lifting up the serpent? How does this relate to Jesus’ death and resurrection and our salvation?

Day 5

John 3:16-17

John 3:16 is perhaps the most often quoted verse in the Bible. Why do you think that is? How does reading verse 17 change your understanding of verse 16?

Bless

Be gracious as God is gracious to you.

April 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 5 th Sunday in Lent Social Ministry ~ Camp 9am Worship ~ Lay Lead Service Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	3	4 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	5 5:30pm Wednesday S.T.O.R.Y Word & Worship Lenten Mentorship Meetings	6 1pm Jam Group 3:30pm Children, Youth & Family Ministry	7 11am Men's Bible Study	8 9am First Communion Retreat Kettle River Conference Spring Gathering ~ Our Saviors Cloquet
9 Palm Sunday with First Communion 9am Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee/Cake Fellowship	10	11 5pm Executive Committee Meeting 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	12 8am Hymn Planning Committee	13 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service	14 11am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Good Friday Service of Light &	15 Beacon Deadline
16 9am Easter Sunday Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Easter Breakfast	17 5:30pm Council Meeting	18 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	19 5:30pm Wednesday S.T.O.R.Y Word & Worship	20 1pm Jam Group	21 11am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Call Committee Meeting	22 8am Call Committee Meeting
23/30* 9am Worship Lay Lead service* Sunday Story Time (both dates) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship (both dates) Synod Assembly*	24	25 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	26 Beacon Crew 5:30pm Wednesday S.T.O.R.Y Word & Worship	27	28 Synod Assembly 11am Men's Bible Study	29 Synod Assembly

April Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 2. Gordy & Lil Davis
- 9. Debby Johnson
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet
- 23. Marlene Anderson
- 30. Larry Beckstrom

Ushers

- 2. JoAnn Gustafson & Mary Saarela
- 9. Sharon Bragge & Jon Kolb
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet
- 23. Florence & Al Holm
- 30. Sarah & Paul Carpenter

Lay Readers

- 2. Renae House
- 9. Stacy Colich
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet
- 23. Linda Newlon
- 30. Paul Carpenter

Communion Assistants

- 2. Stacy Colich, Linda Newlon & Sarah Carpenter
- 9. Paul Carpenter, Cheryl Ankrum, Dave Beatty
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet
- 23. Lynn Beatty, John & Jude Holden
- 30. Pat Durkee, Jean Johnson & Janice Dahl

Acolytes

- 2. Anna Bong
- 9. Colin Emerson
- 16. Johanna Bernu
- 23. Noah Olsen
- 30. Bridger McCorison

Communion Prep & Clean

- 2. Ryan Swanson (P) Joel Soukkala (C)
- 9. Julie Frederick (P)
Bethany Leseman (C)
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet (P & C)
- 23. Pat Durkee (P & C)
- 30. Gordy & Lil Davis (P & C)

Counters

- 2. Gene Bryant & Bethany Leseman
- 9. Lynn Beatty & Chris Mitchell
- 16. *See Easter sign-up sheet
- 23. Janice Dahl & JoAnn Gustafson
- 30. Mary Saarela & Lorna Bryant