



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
November 2021

Enter his gates
with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him:
bless his name!

Psalm 100:4



In This Month's Beacon:

*Pastor Seth's Beacon Article

*Financial Update

*Member News

*Committee Updates

*Faith on the Go!

*And More



In the book of Exodus, the Israelites, who had just experienced the incredible high of being freed from

slavery in Egypt and the incredible low of the whole “Golden Calf Incident”, were all ready and excited to get to the promised land, the “land flowing with milk and honey!”

But first – they had to wait.

Not just for a few days, a few weeks, or even a few months. Far from it! Instead, the Israelites wait in the desert wilderness for 40 years.

Now, the Sinai desert might not exactly be the Munger trail, but it’s definitely not “40 years” big either. So why stay so long? I can imagine standing in their shoes (or sandals!), just waiting all that time not doing very much, would have been pretty bewildering and frustrating.

Infuriating, even!

Actually, we don’t even really have to guess how the Israelites felt about – the book makes it pretty clear that they were fed up!

Did God really lead them forward... just to wait in the wilderness?

All the while, though – something else was happening.

It was in the wilderness that the Israelites received manna – once a day, every day – and learned to rely on God.

It was in the wilderness that the Israelites learned how to worship God in the tabernacle, the big tent that would pack up and move wherever the Israelites went next.

It was in the wilderness that the Israelites learned what it means to follow the 10 commandments and to live as a community of faith.

God shaped and prepared the Israelites for what came next during the wilderness time.

It feels to me as if, in one way or another, this continues to be a season of waiting in the wilderness for all of us. Covid continues to complicate the present and muddle the future, and it brings with it anxieties, conflict, and grief. We are able to do many of the things we once took for granted, even while we do them differently and with some level of caution.

The good news, though, is that God not only provides for us but also shapes and prepares us to participate in God’s work. The wilderness is a good place to be because God is faithful!

Perhaps our call in this season of “wilderness waiting” is to wait faithfully; that is, to pray, to prepare, and learn and to love, as we wait for

God’s call and watch for God to show us the way.

May the God of the wilderness be your guide as you go on your way this month! ~Pastor Seth

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2021 Members of Bethesda Church Council

*President – Lynn Beatty

*Vice President – Frank Curtiss

*Secretary - Linda Newlon

*Stacy Colich, Treasurer

Dave Beatty

Deb Davis

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.*



SAVE THE DATE DECEMBER 4, 2021 ANNUAL BAZAAR

Featuring:

Meal Selections:

Sloppy Joe's, Stew and Bars, Rice
Pudding & Fruit Soup.

Crispy Rosettes, Lefse: Packaged or
"hot" & ready to eat, Christmas
Cookies & Candy, Baked & Canned
Goods, Craft Table & Next to New
items.

We will again be asking for help with our Annual Bazaar. As you know, the women of the church (men included) will be holding the bazaar the first Saturday in December. If you would be willing to help in any way either to prep items before the sale or to work during the bazaar or for clean up afterwards please call and leave a message at the church and indicate in what you are willing to participate in.

We will need help with the following:
Setting up on November 28th and taking down tables after the Bazaar
Baking, both at the church and anything you care to bake at home and donate.

Next to New: Please remember to save items for this fabulous rummage sale.

Items for our "Kitchen Nook"

Cookbooks, new or gently used kitchen items, aprons, cloth grocery bags, etc.

Crafts galore. Show off your talents by donating your crafts.

Baking/cooking at the church include:

Monday-Rosettes, **Tuesday**-Sally Anns, **Wednesday**-Spritz, **Thursday**-stew-Sloppy Joes, **Friday**-lefse.

Silent Auction: We are looking for donations

Any items or time you can donate to help make this years Bazaar bigger and better would be greatly appreciated.

Next to New is looking for clean gently used items to sell at the Bazaar. It is a good way to rid your home of unused items. We DO NOT sell clothing or VHS tapes. Please start bringing the items on Sunday, November 21st to the Fellowship Hall. All donations need to be at the church by Wednesday December 1st.

Thank you,
WELCA, Women of the Church.
Rena House 218 591-5651
Lynn, 218 591-7519
Linda 879-6274



Daylight Savings Time Ends November 7th. Don't forget to turn your clocks back.



All Saints Sunday is November 7th.

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.



"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 85.4 pounds of food were delivered in October. Keep up the good work! *For the month of November our collection focus will be canned meat; tuna, chicken, etc.* 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.



November 11th is Veteran's Day. Remember to pray for our Veteran's and the service men and women and their families; and thank them for honorable service for our country.

rooms on the main floor. There are a total of **27 bottom bunk beds**. We need to bring our own bedding and towels. We will do our own meals again and we can bring snacks and Beverages.

Cost is \$45/day.

Our Retreat is open to all women of Bethesda. We would love more women to come! On our last retreat we had room for a few family members/friends to attend if you have someone you would like to invite.

I'm sending this out now because we need to reserve our weekend. We are looking at **Thursday January 20th - Sunday January 23rd.** **Please reply by email or text if you plan to attend.**

I need a non-refundable deposit from everyone who's interested and also the number of days you will stay. Deposit for 3 nights is \$70; Deposit for 1 or 2 nights \$40. I need to receive your deposit within 30 days.

Anyone interested in coming for the day only it would be \$25.

Questions or concerns please email, text or call: Lynn Beatty
2424 County Road 3, Wrenshall, MN 55797
(Phone) 218-591-7519

From now until November 15th WELCA will be collecting donations for ***Thanksgiving Gift Cards***. Please let the office, Lynn Beatty or Pastor Seth know if there is anybody that you know of that may be in need of some extra help this holiday season. Donations can be mailed or may be dropped off at the church. You can also find envelopes in the pews at church. Thank you for helping those in need this holiday season! **Please make checks payable to WELCA.** ***Donations for Christmas Gift Cards will begin November 21st-December 14th.***



2022 ANNUAL

WOMEN'S RETREAT
We will be having our retreat at **One Heartland** in Willow River again. It is a beautiful facility that sits on 93 acres. It has a large room for us to set up and work in and couches for relaxing and visiting. There are two large bunk rooms and six smaller bunk

Coffee Serving Schedule 2021

7 Social Ministry "Epilepsy"

14 Jeannette's Group

21 Ginny's Group

28 Pat's Group

December

5 Social Ministry "Damiano Center"

12 Cary's Group

19 Linda's Group

26 Lil's Group



It is So Simple

1. Pick a Convenient [Location](#)
2. Sign up For a Ruby's Guest [Account](#)
3. [Schedule](#) Your Express Track Registration and Handle Your Donation Online to Save Time
4. OR Just Come to the Pop-Up Pantry Location on the Upcoming Monthly Date

[Cloquet, MN](#)

NEXT POP-UP PANTRY

4th Wednesday of each month

Cloquet National Guard Armory

Sponsored By: Cloquet Area Churches

DAYS AND HOURS

Registration begins at 9:45 AM

Food bundles available 10:00-11:30

AM

For more information on dates and locations go to Rubyspantry.org

Ruby's Pantry Phone

651.674.0009

E-mail goodnews@rubyspantry.org

God's Work, Our Hands Update



God's Works Our Hands is over for 2021 and what a **success** it was! **God blessed** us with a beautiful day and over 109 people working together for our community and beyond.

Together we were able to complete **14 outdoor projects**, from yard work, window washing painting and even replacing a set of steps.

Indoor projects completed:

56 baby care kit

36 personal care kits

162 school backpacks

The above kits filled 53 boxes that will be going to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed to those in need.

49 ditty bags, filled with personal care items, were completed, and will go to the Seafarer's Mission in Duluth, MN. **90 knitted winter hats** will also be donated to the Seafarer's.

There are so many to thank.

Thank you to those who donated their time and talents, kit donations, monies, Thrivent members who applied for and received the \$250.00 Community Impact Cards, to each of the churches; Bethesda Lutheran, Northland United Methodist, Queen of Peace, Our Saviors and Zion Lutheran churches, representatives, for their organizational skills to make each GWOH event an awesome experience each year. **GOD has truly BLESSED ALL OF US!**

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 2022, will be **September 18th, 2022.**

Member News



**Celebrating November
Baptismal Birthdays**

Lewis Castle, Lillian Dewitt, Joyce Houtz, Jaxson Swanson, Haley Ableiter, Marlys McKinstry, Adrian Buller, Autumn Buller, Kevein Conley, Stacy Sell, Debra Smith, Daniel Sell, Tara Olson, Linda Newlon, Colton Bieniek, Jackie Curtiss, Stella Smolej, Nita Lindgren, Steven Alexander Jr., Aaron Krone, Evan Krone, Joyce Aubol, Madalyn Dewitt, Peter Young, Jorgen Herman,

Kurt Johnson, Tucker Selin, Kristie Peterson, Jeff Sell, Zeke Rousseau-Sheff, Colten Devriendt, Adam Schmitz, William Sparks, Nathan Young, Ellie Jo Peddle, Marlee Wakefield, Kim Ableiter, Charles Finne, Callie Holm, Hannah Nygren, Lauren Soukkala, Kari Isakson, Kristin Johnson, & Daniel Rudolph

With cold weather fast approaching The CHUM center in Duluth is in need of blankets for area homeless people. Please drop off blankets at church and they will be delivered to CHUM.
Thank you.

Social Ministry

Are you getting ready for winter, perhaps cleaning closets?
Social Ministry is collecting **WINTER CLOTHING** for those in need. Jackets, coats, snow pants, winter hats/caps, gloves, mittens, socks, boots, underwear, sleeping bags, blankets. Donations can be dropped off in the collection box in the back of the Fellowship Hall.



Social Ministry will be hosting coffee in support of Epilepsy on November 7th after Worship.

Children, Youth, Family & Education

The Middle School Gathering is tentatively postponed - new date to be determined.

We completed Discovering the Bible class on October 3, 2021. We had 4 kids complete the class. They were Jackson Soukkala, Nicholas Colich, Mason Haley, and Tatiana Hackensmith. Thank you to all that attended.

The Wednesday night meal/worship/confirmation class has changed. We will not be offering a meal effective October 6, 2021. Worship service will start at 5:45 PM - 6:15 PM followed by confirmation class from 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM.

Thank you,
CYFED Committee

Northeastern MN Synod

Online Refelctions **Our Companion Synod Relationship with the Ingrian Lutheran Church in Russia – “So, what now?”**

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (ELCIR) has a long history, 410 years to be exact!

Founded in 1611, the ELCIR flourished and found favor with the Russian government, in part because of its strong diaconal ministries...until the Communist Revolution in 1917 and subsequent decimation of the ELCIR. But, fast forward toward the end of the communist era: the first Ingrian Lutheran congregation allowed to register and function legally occurred in 1970 and the first Bishop, Arri Kugappi, was installed in 1992 — the hard process of rebuilding the ELCIR slowly began.

Accompaniment in ministry. Just think of the enormous challenge: very few pastors, minuscule financial resources for staff salary and church rebuilding; absence of trained laity for Sunday School, diaconal outreach, evangelism. But, with support from countries outside of Russia, the process of the Ingrian Lutheran church becoming a Spirit-filled viable community of faith sharing the Gospel in Word and Deed among the Russian people began to take shape. Our Northeastern Minnesota Synod established a Companion Synod relationship with the ELCIR in 2002 and even prior to that has been privileged to accompany the ELCIR in their ministry of rebuilding in many exciting and challenging ways: e.g., in the past nineteen years ~ twenty mission groups have participated in Friendship English Language Bible Camps, Vacation Bible School

programs, and other ELCIR events in Russia; members of our Synod have hosted relationship-building visits by eight different delegations from the ELCIR; some churches established Friendship Congregation Relationships; three new church buildings have been built in part or as a result of our partnering relationship – in Petrozavodsk and Laskela in the Karelia Deanery and in Birsk in the Ural Deanery; and, as a result of exchange visits, wonderful new relationships and deepened faith have been forged. We hear repeatedly: “Please come, it is so helpful and encouraging for us!” These relationships and the faith of our Russian sisters and brothers in Christ have also deeply encouraged members and congregations in our synod.

So, what now? *We need to rebuild!* This ministry really thrives on a steady stream of exchange visits and interactions — the pandemic has not been helpful! But we are planning and praying about post-pandemic initiatives. For example: Would you be interested in providing leadership as a member of the ELCIR Companion Synod Task Force -- an infusion of new members with energy and new ideas would be terrific? Are you interested in joining a group headed to the ELCIR in Russia for a relationship-building, encouraging, and learning visit? Would you like to set up a writing/texting/video faith- and life-

sharing relationship? Might your church be interested in encouraging the opportunity to contribute funding for *Vision Petrozavodsk*, or a church building project in Cheboksary, or the project of rebuilding the St. Ann’s church in St. Petersburg? There are many ways to be creatively involved—the Spirit will guide, helping to bring the Good News to many in Russia who are searching for hope and who find our Lutheran expression of faith meaningful.

For more detailed information see <http://www.nemnsynod.org/ingria-russia.html> or contact the Synod office at 218-724-4424

Paul Anderson and the Northeastern Minnesota Synod/ELCIR Companion Synod Task Force



Faith on the Go!

Pentecost: Sabbath

This Week

Sabbath- a time of rest and focus on God observed in a 24 hour period in biblical description. Sabbath today looks very different. We don’t rest – rest is hard. We might miss out on something, we might not fit in or get the best shopping deal, we might have to say no. Yet, taking time to

remember we rely on God is saying yes to our faith and to our God and to ourselves and our family. Look at your schedule this week. Where is a time period – a day, an afternoon, an hour, where you can just “be”? Name it and claim it. Put it in your calendar and challenge yourselves to be non-productive for this time you have set aside. Then take 5 minutes to talk about it. How did it feel? What do you think of the practice of rest? Check out Barbara Brown Taylor’s little book called “The Practice of Saying No” (it’s only 20 pages!)

Pray

God of mercy and reconciliation, we praise you for accepting and holding our loved ones that have died and that we miss today. As we gather to eat, to pray, to rest and to work, comfort us in our memories and to bring joy to our hearts. Amen.

Connect

Who do you miss today?
Who were you present with?

Bible

Revelation 21: 1-6 – The New Heaven and the New Earth

Day 1

Revelation 21: 1-2

What do you see when you imagine the whole world made more beautiful? Does the image of a bride fit? Why or why not?

Day 2

Revelation 21: 3

What would it be like to have God living on your street as your neighbor? Comforting? Scary?

Day 3

Revelation 21: 4

Has someone ever wiped away your tears? What did it feel like? Imagine a world where no one gets sick or dies or is sad. What would that be like?

Day 4

Revelation 21: 5

Is it exciting to get new things (toys, clothes, etc.)? What are some things that only God can make new? What would a world where everything is new be like?

Day 5

Revelation 21: 6

God offers the water of life to all who are thirsty. What do you think that water tastes like? What would it feel like to drink it?

Bless

God grants memories and love to hold us steadfast.

For additional weekly devotionals go to:

<http://faithformationjourneys.org/>

November 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 11:30am Fellowship Hall in Use ~ Red Hat's 5:30pm Women's Bible Study	2 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	3 5:30pm Meal, Worship & Confirmation Class 6 th -9 th Grade	4 3:30pm Children, Youth, Family & Ed. Meeting	5 11am Bible Study	6
7 All Saints Sunday Social Ministry ~ Epilepsy 9am Worship/ Storytime (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	8 5:30pm Women's Bible Study	9 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 4:15pm Worship Meeting 5:30pm Council Meeting 6pm Serenity Seekers	10 5:30pm Meal, Worship & Confirmation Class 6 th -9 th Grade	11 Veteran's Day 1pm Jam Group 5:30pm Ladies of Kaleva Meeting	12 11am Bible Study	13
14 9am Worship Storytime (Fellowship Hall) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	15 Beacon Deadline 5:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:30pm WELCA Meeting	16 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	17 5:30pm Meal, Worship & Confirmation Class 6 th -9 th Grade	18	19 11am Bible Study	20
21 9am Worship Storytime (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	22 5:30pm Women's Bible Study	23 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	24	25 Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!	26 11am Bible Study	27
28 9am Worship Storytime (FH) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship Bazaar Set-Up	29 8am Bazaar Prep ~ Rosettes 5:30pm Women's Bible Study	30 8am Bazaar Prep ~Sally Anns 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers				

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

Sunday Worship

9:00am

In House

And Online

*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.*

