



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
November 2019

God is able
to provide you with every
blessing
in
abundance,
so that by always having
enough of everything,
you may share abundantly...



2 Corinthians 9:8

Join us for our Thanksgiving Eve
Worship Service on November 27th at
6:30 p.m. Come share in this time of
thanks! Be sure to bring your family
and friends, and extend the invitation
to your neighbors.

In This Month's Beacon:

*Vicar Luke's Beacon Article

*Financial Update

*Member News

*Committee Updates

* Information on the Women's
Retreat

*Faith on the Go

*And More!

We say it every time we recite the Apostle's Creed, "I believe in the Holy Spirit." It is the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, whom I get the most questions about. To be honest, I often ask these questions too! Mostly, I ask, "What is the Spirit up to?"

5 years ago, I went with my pastor to the synod office to see what the Spirit was up to. I ended up entering into candidacy for rostered ministry in the ELCA, enrolling at Luther Seminary, and forever changing the trajectory of mine and Donna's life! Paying attention to what the Holy Spirit is up to is no small thing. If there is one thing I have learned about the Holy Spirit, it is this: embrace the wonder of the Spirit's activity.

Martin Luther asked what it means to believe in the Holy Spirit when he wrote about the Third Article of the Apostle's Creed in his small catechism. He wrote, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith."

What is the Holy Spirit up to, indeed! The gift of faith is what sustains us as we contemplate the future. The Holy

Spirit both helps us to discern paths to take when a decision is needed and to trust in God, who sanctifies the *whole* Christian church on earth. This is what I cling to now. I encourage you, Bethesda Lutheran Church, to do the same. Trust what the Holy Spirit is up to as you move forward in discerning the call of a new pastor to this congregation. I promise you that I will do the same. There is a process in place for calling a pastor and I wholly expect both you and I to fully embrace and explore this process. Let's leave space for the Spirit to move us all as we wonder together, "What is the Spirit up to?"

Pray with me: Good and faithful God, send your Holy Spirit to advocate for us, to help us do your will, and to call us all into the faith in which we have been gifted through Jesus Christ. We long to be good and faithful servants, accepting *your* vision for the *whole* Christian church on earth. Be present with call committees and all candidates, inspiring wise discernment. Encourage us all to embrace the call process so that we may glorify your Holy name. Help us to fully explore where you are calling each of us, so that we may put aside personal desires and be obedient to your will. Lord, call us, gather us, enlighten us, and sanctify us along with your whole church on earth. In Jesus name we pray. Amen!

2019 Members of Bethesda Church Council

- *President – Lynn Beatty
- *Vice President – Frank Curtiss
- *Secretary - Linda Newlon
- *Stacy Colich, Treasurer

Dave Beatty
 Deb Davis
 Jason Goad
 Jane Joki
 Beth Leseman
 Teresa Solomon

**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.*

Bethesda Staff

Office 218-384-4501

Vicar Luke Lekander

Pastor@bethesdacarlton.org

Bobbie McCorison, Secretary,
 Financial Secretary

Stacy Colich, Treasurer 218-393-7775

stacycolich@yahoo.com

Nita Davis, Bookkeeper/Accountant
 515-890-1235

Nita@davisbooksandtax.com

Alice Kloepfer, Custodian

Cathy Dale, Accompanist

Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church

204 5th St – PO Box 210

Carlton MN 55718

Email: bethesda55718@msn.com

Website: www.bethesdacarlton.org

Synod's Site: www.nemnsynod.org

Financial Update			
Year-to-date ending 09/30/2019			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	75866.00	79988.35	(4122.35)
Non-pledged income	11733.43	10445.00	1288.43
TOTAL INCOME	87599.43	90433.35	(2833.92)
Salaries/Compensation	50845.89	68272.45	(17426.56)
General Office Expenses	6972.55	7853.81	(881.26)
Utilities	7962.92	8549.91	(586.99)
Other Expenses	850.95	2615.06	(1764.11)
Benevolence Expenses	1517.32	1599.77	(82.45)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	979.92	1199.97	(220.05)
Social Ministry	243.00	262.53	(19.53)
Stewardship Expenses	0.00	124.97	(124.97)
Worship Expenses	1310.68	475.00	835.68
CYFM Expenses	758.80	1821.25	(1062.45)
TOTAL EXPENSES	71442.03	92774.72	(21332.69)
Net Income	16157.40	(2341.37)	18498.77
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.			



Daylight Savings Time Ends November 3rd. Don't forget to turn your clocks back.



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.

An additional driver is needed for Meals on Wheels for the first Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in delivering meals, please contact the office at 384-4501.

Thank you!

Visitation team

Bethesda provides church services to Interfaith Care Center and Pineview Apartments on the first Sunday of each month. Members from the Visitation Team; Linda Bong, Anna Bong, Lynn Beatty, Ron & Betty Peterson, JoAnn Gustafson and Linda Newlon, help to lead the service. Please contact the church office if you would be interested in joining the team at one of the services.

Adam Schmitz, William Sparks, Kevin Conley, Kim Ableiter, Callie Holm, Lauren Soukkala, Madalyn Dewitt, Lillian Dewitt & Tucker Selin.



Our sympathy & prayers to the Family of Armas "Pete" Koski. God gives us hope and strength in the promise of the resurrection in Christ.



Food Distribution

Sharing The Love Of Christ Through
Food

Wednesdays, November 13th &
December 20th.

10:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

Cloquet National Guard Armory

* With a \$20 cash donation you
receive an abundance of grocery items.

Pianist Mary Beth Carlson
WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT
The Landing Church, Proctor, MN
December 7, 2019 7:00 PM

ALL WOMEN OF BETHESDA are invited to attend this special night out. Mary Beth is a pianist from the twin cities who provides a "healing sense of serenity, joy, and well-being" during, especially during the busy holiday season. Each of her piano arrangements will lead you through a peaceful journey of comfort and contentment, leaving you relaxed and refreshed with her elegant, distinctive style. **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 17TH.** Free-will offering at event. Please sign up in the back of the narthex. Guaranteed to put you in the holiday spirit! We will meet at the church parking lot to carpool as needed. Questions? Contact Ginny Korte-Castle 218-384-3896

Member News



Celebrating November Baptismal Birthdays

Lewis Castle, Joyce Houtz, Haley Ableiter, Marlys McKinstry, Linda Newlon, Jackie Curtiss, Aaron Krone, Evan Krone, Jorgen Herman, Jeff Sell, Stacey Sell, Zeke Rousseau-Sheff, Colten Devriendt,

WELCA

From now until November 10th WELCA will be collecting money for **Thanksgiving gift cards** for those in need. There will be envelopes in the worship bulletins or feel free to drop off your donation in the office. There will also be a collection for Christmas gift cards starting the last Sunday in November.

Please let the office, Vicar Luke or Pastor Jim know if there is anybody that you know of that may be in need of some extra help this holiday season.

Please make checks payable to WELCA.



50 Years of Ordained Women

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020 we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

As part of this anniversary year, we lament that women have been barred from serving and have been bullied, dismissed and excluded. We also celebrate the gifts and service that women have brought to our church and our world as pastors.

Congregations are encouraged to hold commemorative events throughout the year! Below are three resources to help congregations observe these anniversaries, including a five-session adult forum, a four-session Bible study, and a liturgy with Scripture and hymn suggestions.

Female pastors are welcome to join a pre-gathering of the Rostered Ministers Gathering to celebrate 50 years of professional ministry, to lament the hardships that women in particular have had to face as pastors, and to work together to build a better future. For more information, go to elca.org/rmg.

Faith on the Go

Pray

God, we know that you hear our cries of joy and sorrow. Help us to be part of your transforming love and grace in the world. Grant justice to all who are oppressed. May we live in peace with one another, Amen.

Connect

What does your soul cry out to God in praise?

When does your soul cry out to God for help?

Bible

Luke 18:1-8—The Parable of the Persistent Widow

Day 1

Luke 18: 1

Today set an alarm on your phone or watch for every two or three hours to stop and pray about whatever is happening right then in your day

Day 2

Luke 18: 2-3

Who are the "widows" (those with no voice or are marginalized) in our society? Say a prayer for justice for those that you can name either by name or by group.

Day 3

Luke 18: 4-5

When was a time that you gave in to what someone else wanted just to get some peace from that person? Did it turn out to be a positive experience or not?

Day 4

Luke 18: 6-7

What is prayer to you? Share the ways that you pray/talk to God or about your relationship with God currently.

Day 5

Luke 18:8

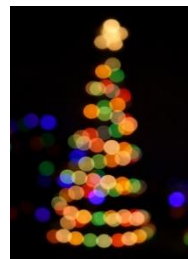
We know that God cares for all people and all of creation, but it seems that justice is slow in coming. How can we help God bring justice to those who need it? How can we participate in God's mission in the world?

Bless

God hears you, do not lose heart



Upcoming VLM Events:



Celebration of Light and Music

Sunday, December 8, 2019 at

**Camp Hiawatha
2:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for an afternoon of fellowship, holiday fare, winter activities, and celebrating the season of Advent. There is something for all ages as we gather in community to prepare our hearts for the coming Christ child. We invite you to participate in all or part of this day.

Activities for the day include sleigh rides, food demonstrations, crafts, cookie decorating, hymn sing,

worship, and a festive holiday meal. It's a great event for all ages!

Cost: \$15 for adults, \$7 ages 6-11, free under 5. Covers afternoon activities and meal.

Please RSVP by December 5 by contacting the main VLM office - email or 218-666-5465.

Schedule of Events

2:00-4:30 - Sleigh rides, Ethnic food demonstrations and samples, cookie decorating, Advent crafts, conversation and fellowship

4:30 - Holiday Hymn sing

5:00 - Worship Service

6:00 - Festive Holiday Dinner



Give to the Max Day 2019

Give to the Max is just around the corner. Join us Thursday, November 14th and support Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry. Moving our canoe forward is hard work. VLM is blessed to have so many paddles working together.

THANK YOU!

This year marks the tenth year of Give

to the Max Day for VLM. Due to some anonymous generosity, there is a \$20,000 match available on November 14th which doubles your gift. As many of you who have paddled with us know, each paddle counts. Please consider a gift to VLM and be one of the paddles that continues to move our mission forward.

Scheduled giving is now open as well. Plan your gift so you don't have to worry about forgetting on the big day. Follow us online all day using the hashtag: #VLMmanypaddles

How to Give? You can give to Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion by going to GiveMN.org and searching for Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry.

When to Give? All Day Long! Select a time (or two) that fits your schedule, log on, and help us reach our goal of \$40,000.

Is there an "off-line" option? YES! simply mail your donation by November 14 to VLM (see address below). Be sure to write Give to the Max day in the memo line of your check.



18th ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date for the Bethesda Women's Retreat!

Thursday, January 23 - Sunday, January 26, 2020.

Come for the entire weekend, part of the weekend or just one day.

The Retreat is at One Heartland Center, 26001 Heinz Rd, Willow River, MN

Cost: \$174.00 for 3 nights
 \$116.00 for 2 nights
 \$ 58.00 for 1 night
 \$ 30.00 for the day

This is a non-structured weekend for the women of Bethesda to enjoy getting to know each other while relaxing and taking time to do what you enjoy – or doing nothing at all!

A \$90 non-refundable deposit needed at registration for 2 or 3 night stay.

Please see Lynn Beatty with any questions: 218-591-7519
or nssgbeatty@gmail.com

18th ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL

ARRIVE: _____
DEPART _____

AMOUNT PAID _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LYNN BEATTY

“A Touch of Scandinavia”



Annual Christmas Bazaar

Presented by the Women of Bethesda
Lutheran Church, 204 5th St., Carlton

Saturday, December 7th, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Featuring

- **Meal selections**

Beef Stew, Sloppy Joes & Tomato Basil Soup

- **Bars & Rice Pudding**

- **Craft Table**

- **Crispy Rosettes**

- **Lefsa packaged or “Hot” and ready to eat!**

- **Christmas cookies & candy**

- **Baked & Canned goods**

- **Next to New items**



November Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 3. Paula & Noah Olsen
- 10. Janice Dahl
- 17. Frank & Jackie Curtiss
- 24. Jane Joki

Ushers

- 3. Debby Johnson & Mary Saarela
- 10. Dave & Lynn Beatty
- 17. Paul Carpenter & Des Holm
- 24. Pat Durkee & Stacy Colich

Lay Readers

- 3. Pat Durkee
- 10. Bethany Leseman
- 17. Stacy Colich
- 24. Cheryl Ankrum

Communion Assistants

- 3. Renae House & Cheryl Ankrum
- 10. Marlys McKinstry &
Cookie Jaakola
- 17. Janice Dahl & Linda Newlon
- 24. Frank & Jackie Curtiss

Acolytes

- 3. Nixon Mitchell
- 10. Anna Bong
- 17. Lucas Radtke
- 24. Anna Bong

Communion Prep & Clean

- 3. Pat Durkee (P & C)
- 10. Ryan Swanson(P)
Bethany Leseman(C)
- 17. Renee Kesty (P & C)
- 24. Frank & Jackie Curtiss (P & C)

Counters

- 3. Chris Mitchell & Gene Bryant
- 10. Lorna Bryant & Gladys Sievert
- 17. Janice Dahl & Lynn Beatty
- 24. Jane Joki & Linda Newlon

Coffee Servers

- 3. Social Ministry
- 10. Renae's Group
- 17. Jean's Group
- 24. Lorna's Group

**Just a reminder that if you have switched duties with someone please contact the office so changes can be made for the bulletin.
Thank you.**

December Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

1. Debby Johnson
8. Dave & Lynn Beatty
15. Paul Carpenter
22. Mary Saarela
29. Craig & Des Holm

Ushers

1. JoAnn Gustafson & Jon Kolb
8. Ryan Swanson & Debby Johnson
15. Ginny Korte-Castle & Lew Castle
22. Paula & Noah Olsen
29. Dave & Lynn

Lay Readers

1. Renae House
8. Ginny Korte-Castle
15. Lynn Beatty
22. Linda Newlon
29. Wendy Mitchell

Communion Assistants

1. Dave & Lynn Beatty
8. Linda Newlon & Mary Saarela
15. Pat Durkee & Bethany Leseman
22. Stacy Colich & JoAnn Gustafson
29. Cheryl Ankrum & Renae House

Acolytes

1. Lucas Radtke
8. Nixon Mitchell
15. Anna Bong
22. Lucas Radtke
29. Nixon Mitchell

Communion Prep & Clean

1. Pat Durkee (P & C)
8. Ryan Swanson (P)
Beth Leseman (C)
15. Renee Kesty (P & C)
22. Robbi Pearce (P & C) & Sharon Bragge (to train)
29. Frank & Jackie Curtiss (P & C)

Counters

1. Mary Saarela & Bethany Leseman
8. Chris Mitcehl & Gene Bryant
15. Lorna Bryant & Gladys Sievert
22. Janice Dahl & Jane Joki
29. Lynn Beatty & Linda Newlon

Coffee Servers

1. Renae's Group
8. Jeannette's Group
15. Dawn's Group
22. Lil's Group
29. Cary's Group

November 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 11am Men's Bible Study	2
3 Daylight Savings Time ends Social Ministry ~ Damiano Center 9am Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee Hour Sing 'N Play 6:30pm Bible Study	4	5 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	6 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm 6 th -9 th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm Worship	7 3:15pm Children, Youth, Family & Ed. 5:30pm Spaghetti Dinner 6:30pm Blanket Exercise	8 11am Men's Bible Study	9
10 9am Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee Hour Sing 'N Play 6:30pm Bible Study	11	12 9am Kettle River Conference ~ Zion Lutheran Church Cloquet Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	13 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm 6 th -9 th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm Worship	14 1pm Jam Group	15 Beacon Deadline 11am Men's Bible Study	16
17 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee Hour Sing 'N Play	18	19 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	20 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm 6 th -9 th Grade Confirmation 6:30pm Worship	21	22 11am Men's Bible Study	23 Middle School Gathering
24 Middle School Gathering 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee Hour Sing 'N Play 6:30pm Bible Study	25	26 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	27 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	28 Happy Thanksgiving  Office Closed	29 11am Men's Bible Study	30

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

Sunday Worship

9:00am

Sunday Story Time (*First 2*

*Sundays of the month in the
Fellowship Hall*)

Coffee/Fellowship **10:15am**

Sing 'N Play

10:00am

Wednesday Worship

5:30pm Meal

Faith Formation

6:30pm Worship

*You can also view the Beacon on
our website at bethesdacarlton.org
or if you would like to have it mailed
or emailed to you please contact the
office.*

