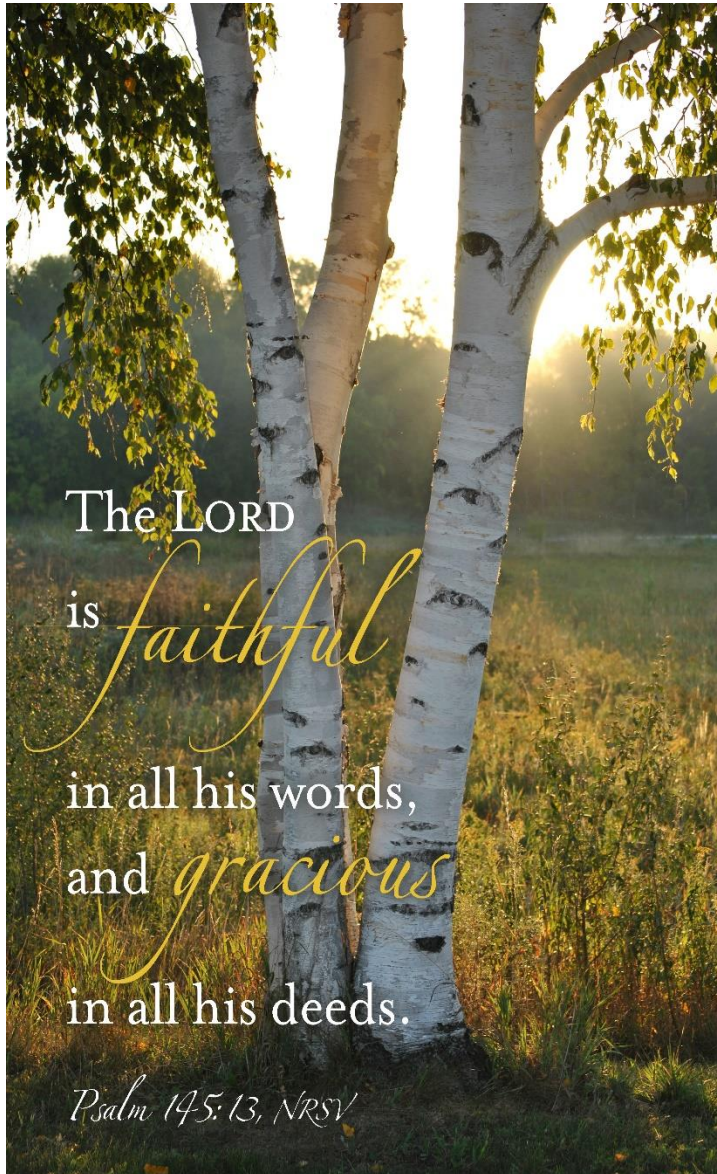


The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN

June 2021



In This Month's Beacon:

*Pastor Jim's Beacon Article

*Financial Update

*Member News

*Committee Updates

*Faith on the Go!

*And More



Greetings, friends!

Another Memorial Day is before us. It is a day in which we remember those service men and women who have died protecting America's freedoms.

Most of us get lumps in our throats and tears in our eyes at the sad but beautiful sound of "Taps!" Warren Kirsch of Grand Rapids, a WW2 combat veteran, found the following explanation of the history behind the haunting musical tribute.

Union Army Capt. Robert Ellicombe was with his men in 1862 on a battlefield in Virginia, with the Confederate Army on the other side of a narrow strip of land. During the night, he heard the moans of a wounded soldier.

Not knowing if the man was a Union or a Confederate soldier, the captain risked his life to crawl through gunfire and pull the wounded man toward his encampment. After he reached the safety of his own troops, the captain discovered that the man he sought to rescue was a Confederate who was now dead.

When a lantern illuminated the face of the man, the captain gasped and went numb with shock. He had rescued his own son! The boy had been studying

music in the South when war started and had enlisted in the Confederate Army without his father's knowledge.

Heart-sick, the father asked superiors the next morning if the boy could have a full military burial with an army band playing the funeral dirge, despite his enemy status.

"No," they said, "the boy was a Confederate soldier." But out of respect for the boy's father, they allowed him to select one musician to play. The captain chose a bugler.

Capt. Ellicombe asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes that he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of his dead son's uniform. That became the haunting melody played at military funerals and memorials. We know it as "Taps!"

Words of its first verse are, "Day is done, Gone the sun, From the lakes, From the hills, From the sky. All is well, Safely rest, God is nigh."

Let's give this some thought as we attend Memorial Day services again this year.

Your friend in Christ,

Pastor Jim

Bethesda Staff

Jim Raisanen, Interim Pastor

218-838-3690

Office 218-384-4501

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

The special congregational meeting held on May 23rd, to vote to Call Seth Wynands passed (60) yes, and (6) no and the compensation package passed (59) yes, and (7) no, 2 abstained.

Thank you to everyone who donated to Interfaith Care Center. Please remember that there is an ongoing donation box for Liberalis.

Come join us on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for coffee & fellowship at the Brickyard. All are welcome!

Thank you to everyone that helped with cleaning up the yard and woods around the church. Your hard work is greatly appreciated and keeps our yard looking beautiful!



June 20th to all Dads and those who fill fathering roles. God bless and guide fathers everywhere.



“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. 26# was delivered on May 11th. Keep up the good work! *For the month of June our collection focus will be rice and noodles but all donations are welcome and needed.* If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, this is also **greatly** appreciated as a donation like this can purchase much more with the resources the Salvation Army has access to. Thank you.

UPDATE ON SALE OF 1-1/2 LOTS OF WOODED PARKING LOT

The Buyer for Lot 6 and half of Lot 5 (wooded area of our parking lot) is no longer able to move forward with the purchase of this land. The cost and lead time of building materials is way over her budget and has priced her out of the neighborhood. She thanks us for our willingness to work with her and apologizes for any inconvenience.



We are going to be putting pollinator and monarch butterfly gardens by the Bell Tower and probably by the side of the building the faces Highway 210. The kits from the Soil and Water Conservation District will be arriving June 18. We need volunteers to prepare the soil in these two areas and/or help plant the flowers when they arrive. *If you are able to help with any part of this project please contact:*

Linda Newlon at 879-6274

SAVE THE DATE:

“God’s work. Our hands.”

Sunday will be Sunday September 19, 2021.

Rummage saling this summer?

Keep your eyes open for gently used items to donate to the overseas Baby Care Kits, created by loving hands for our 9/19/21 Community God’s Works our Hands project.

Baby Care Kit Items needed:

1. lightweight cotton t-shirts - Onesie’s size 12 months – 24 months
2. long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers
3. receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36” and 52” square
4. cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
5. jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
6. socks
7. hand towel, dark color recommended

The Donation Box, for used or new baby items will be in the fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Debby Johnson 384-3360

Quilting at Bethesda Update

Spring 2021

Many thanks to the ladies (Linda Newlon, Lynn Beatty, Jeannette Korpela, Lil Davis, and

Ginny Korte-Castle) who recently met to explore the future of quilting at Bethesda. There have been so many folks involved in this process over the years-and we want to thank all of you for your time and talent! This note is an update, as well as invite, to join in our quilting ministry if it interests you.

Our priorities in the order listed are to:

- 1) Give each Bethesda high school graduate a quilt that they choose from a selection available.
- 2) Develop a stash of baby quilts for the future so we can give to families of newborns at Bethesda. (We need a stash before we start this ministry.)
- 3) Develop a stash of “extra” quilts to give to anyone who might be in need, such as homeless, fire victims, etc.

Thanks to WELCA, Thrivent, and member donations, there are materials in the quilters closet in the church basement, including scrap fabric, yarn for tying, backing, and batting. Jeannette is ordering some panels to serve as a base for grad quilts as well. Please help yourself.

Ginny has offered to machine quilt some of the grad quilts (must be 100% cotton), but quilts will also be tied. We'll arrange a day to tie quilts when needed.

Grad quilts should be in the 60-70/80 inch range.

Labels stating the quilt is from Bethesda should be sewn on the back of each quilt. These will (soon) be in a marked container in the storage closet.

Questions? Contact any of us, and remember-- “Love is the thread that binds hearts and quilts together”.

Member News



Celebrating June Baptismal Birthdays:

Lynn Beatty, Madison Goodwin, JoAnn Gustafson, Paige Johnson, Angela Martini, Karen Murphy, Edward Leiste, George Saarela, Mary Bryant, Brad Bunge, Marvin Durkee, Harper McKeon, Athena Pearce-Ante, Christie Bunge, Sawyer Thorman, Devin Cook, Luke Konietzko, Cindy Mankowski, Amanda Radtke, Rusty Buscko, Katelyn Konietzko, Waylon Lekander, Anna Bong, Ruthann Goad, Sandy Moench, Hunter Thorman, Nicholas Colich, Samuel Goodwin, Austin Graves, Quinten Krueger, Tristan Krueger, Lindsay Pantsar, Marguerite Anderson, Dave Hendrickson, Amy Lindgren, Brad Matlack, Rachel Rudolph, Aaron Buller, Natalie Buscko, Susan Coady, Terry Coady, Stephanie Grover,

Sheila Hopp, Tori Anderson &
Richard Nygren

CONGRATULATIONS!



Deacon Colleen Bernu was installed as Synod Staff during the Synod Assembly as Director of Evangelical Mission and Synod Minister for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Congratulations! You will do amazing!



Our deepest sympathy & prayers to the family of long time member Ken Olson and the family of Isabelle Marie Hedine. God gives us hope and strength in the promise of the resurrection in Christ.

Children, Youth, Family & Education

We just finished Discovering Your Bible class with our 3rd graders. This was a 4 week class and we had 3 in attendance. They learned about the books in the Bible, finding chapters, verses and how to read a daily devotional. The kids that attended were Ailie Gustafson, Aaron Krone and Evan Krone. Thank you from the CYFED Committee.

Mat Makers

The Mat Makers group will not be meeting on Fridays through the summer but please join them on Tuesdays from 9-11. Any questions call Mary 393-2693. It takes many hands to make one and we would appreciate any time you could share. ***CROCHETERS would be wonderful!*** Men, women, children, ***All*** are welcome! There's lots to do. Thanks to all of you who are helping us provide for the homeless!



2021 Virtual Synod Assembly

**Theme: LOVE
IGNITES US**
Key verse: 2

Corinthians 5:14-15 *For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.*

Linda Newlon and I had the opportunity to be part of the virtual 2021 Synod Assembly on Friday evening April 30th and Saturday morning May 1, 2021. The conference title was "Love Ignites Us". On Friday night the keynote speaker was Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. She

talked about the ministry support in Tanzania, Russia, India, Egypt, Liberia, Costa Rica and Japan. Even with COVID they were able to raise more than 1.8 million dollars for the ministries. They funded 830 ministries. She talked about the fatigue in the level of pastors – many retirements pending. There are a lot of people attending church on line but never set foot in a church. She also talked about racism with African and Asian people how white privilege affects them. We get things that African and Asian people do not. She also talked about the pandemic. We must remember to check on others during this difficult time. She also talked about her Honduras trip. This is an extremely poor country, and they have nothing. There is a lot of poverty, gangs and sexual abuse.

On Friday evening Bishop Amy Ogden introduced the staff and held installations. Deacon Colleen Bernu was installed as Director of Evangelical Mission and Synod Minister for diversity, equity, and inclusion. She will start this position on May 1, 2021. Congratulations to Colleen!

Saturday, May 1, 2021 they went over Anniversaries of Ordination of pastors that had milestone anniversaries. Pastor Jim Raisanen has 45 years

being a pastor. Congratulations Pastor Jim!

Synod Journey to the ELCA Youth Gathering Youth gathering will be July 21-28, 2022. The Synod Journey theme will be Deeply Rooted in a Boundless God Beyond Measure. More to follow on the Youth Gathering.

We thought this was interesting with a lot of good information. I had no idea what all the Synod did for all these ministries, so it was a great learning experience for me.

Thanks for nominating us to attend. Linda Newlon and JoAnn Gustafson

Financial Update			
Year-to-date ending 04/30/2021			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	38681.00	31500.00	7181.00
Non-pledged income	4212.28	7066.68	(2854.40)
TOTAL INCOME	42893.28	38566.68	4326.60
Salaries/Compensation	15890.66	31181.96	(15291.30)
General Office Expenses	2080.39	2409.36	(328.97)
Utilities	3510.58	3402.68	107.90
Other Expenses	131.92	596.68	(464.76)
Benevolence Expenses	386.81	350.00	36.81
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	40.61	450.00	(409.39)
Social Ministry	108.00	116.68	(8.68)
Worship Expenses	2455.80	2333.32	122.48
CYFM Expenses	911.88	808.36	103.52
TOTAL EXPENSES	25516.65	41649.04	(16132.39)
Net Income	17376.63	(3082.36)	20458.99
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.			

Living in a bilingual community, it's not uncommon to walk into a conversation spoken in Ojibemowin. If you're only fluent in the English language, you soon develop skills to compensate for your lack of understanding. You listen to intonation and watch body language. You laugh when others laugh, mimic emotional reactions, and nod in agreement...a lot. Eventually, you learn enough of the language to fully participate, but until that day, you live in a space in which speakers talk at you and past you at the same time.

Linguists teach that we hear through the filter of our own dialect - a filter that contributes significantly towards building our personal worldview. They say this filter never truly lifts and that we always see the world to a certain degree through the lens developed by our first language. This means that our family, community, racial and ethnic cultures each influence not only how we communicate and hear communication but also how we perceive and understand each other and the world. I think about this often as we commit to creating space that both invites and embraces diverse voices. How might the way in which we hear things (or read them) influence our ability to be in authentic relationships with each other?

This past week, Bp. Amy and I were invited into conversation about reframing the narrative. This group is a subcommittee of Bp. Eaton's task force charged to lead the ELCA into living into the repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery on a national level. As part of our conversation, we read Psalm 44:1-5 and discussed how we heard and felt the text.

Acknowledging that we each are influenced by our cultural filter, we wrestled with where we saw hope in these words. A few days later, Bp. Amy and I did a similar exercise using Deuteronomy 7:1-11. Taking time to be mindful of what we hear, minimizes the risks associated with talking at and past each other. Perhaps this type of reframing the narrative is one facet of what it means to love our neighbors as ourselves.

In our commitment to invite younger and more culturally diverse voices into our faith communities, I wonder how God is challenging us to see and hear things differently. What do you hear and feel as you read Psalm 44:1-5 and Deuteronomy 7:1-11? Where do you see hope? Is it possible that others might hear and feel these texts differently? How might your cultural filter be influencing your worldview in regards to God's message through these words?

As we live into our commission as disciples to preach the Good News in

word and deed to all nations, and as we live out our baptismal promises to strive for justice and peace throughout the world, may we talk to (not at and not passed) each other. May we learn to listen in a way that broadens our understanding of God among us. May it be so - Amen.

Colleen Bernu
Director for Evangelical
Mission, NEMN Synod, ELCA
Synod Minister for Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion



Faith on the Go!

Take some time to focus on caring for creation at home, your neighborhood, town, and world! Each week focuses on a small project that your whole household can do together.

Week 1

Sponsor a tree: One way you can help out the whole earth is to donate money to plant a tree globally. Go to www.sponsortrees.com to find out more. Or you could get people to donate 10 cents for every piece of trash you pick up in your neighborhood.

Pray

God of faith, just as you feed our bodies with good things that grow from the earth; feed our hearts and minds to grow in love and compassion for the world around us. Amen.

Connect

What did you forgive today? What do you need for forgiveness?

Bible

Mark 4: 26-34 -Some parable of Jesus

Day 1

Mark 4: 26-27

What is something that you use everyday that you don't understand? Do you feel like it is important to understand it? Or is it just important that it works?

Day 2

Mark 4: 28-29

What do you think Jesus means by the grain being ripe? What kind of harvest is Jesus talking about?

Day 3

Mark 4: 30-32

Have you ever made a small change that turned into a large effect?

Day 4

Mark 4: 33-34

Why do you think that Jesus uses parables to explain things like the Kingdom of God, or faith? Why not be more clear?

Day 5

Mark 4: 26-34

So many of the parables have to do with planting and growing or tending animals probably because those stories made sense to the people Jesus was talking to. What kinds of stories would make more sense to you?

Bless

May the mighty wind of the Holy Spirit set your faith on fire.

For additional weekly devotionals go to:

<http://faithformationjourneys.org/>

VLM Events:



**Summer Camp
Registration
is now OPEN!**

This coming summer we will be soaking in WILD GRACE as we gather together around the campfire at Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion. With new Covid protocols in place, all of our usual summer camp programs are scheduled but our capacity will be reduced which means space is limited- sign up today by calling 1-800-331-5148 or vlmcamps.org

*You are invited to the Ordination to the Ministry of
Word and Service for Colleen Marie Hankins Bernu
Saturday, June 19th, 2021 at 11:00 AM
Douglas County Wildlife Area (Bird Sanctuary)
Clubhouse*

12988 South Bird Road, Gordon, WI

Service is outdoors.

*Please bring a bag chair if you have one,
And bring a small amount of water from home to be
added for use during the service.*

Luncheon to follow on site

*Ministers are invited to process. Color of the day is red.
Family members are invited.*



CDC guidelines followed. Masks required in food line, groups and interior spaces.

June 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9am Making Mats for the Homeless	2	3 1pm Jam Group	4 11am Bible Study	5
6 9am Worship	7 5:15pm Bible Study	8 9am Mats for the Homeless 5:30pm Council Meeting	9	10	11 11am Bible Study	12
13 9am Worship	14 5:15pm Bible Study	15 Beacon Deadline 9am Mats for the Homeless	16	17 1pm Jam Group	18 11am Bible Study 12pm Fellowship Hall in Use ~ Linda Newlon	19 11am Fellowship Hall in Use ~ Leseman Family
20 Father's Day 9am Worship	21 5:15pm Bible Study	22 9am Mats for the Homeless 5:30pm Fellowship Hall in Use ~Ladies of Kaleva	23	24	25 11am Bible Study	26
27 9am Worship	28 5:15pm Fellowship Hall in Use Bible Study	29 9am Mats for the Homeless	30			

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.*

