



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
January 2020

1 CHRONICLES 21:13, NIV

"LET ME FALL
INTO THE HANDS
OF THE LORD,
FOR HIS MERCY
IS VERY GREAT."

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!

New Year's Resolutions by Vicar
Luke Lekander

As Lutherans, we get to celebrate the New Year twice. First, the beginning of the church year, which began with Advent and led up through this season of Christmas. This is a New Year in which we celebrate the incarnation. How is it that God entrusted God's word with humanity? Just how are we worthy for such a gift.....well through Christ incarnate in Jesus, of course. Take a moment to contemplate the incarnation through this poem by Denise Levertov:

*On the Mystery of the Incarnation
It's when we face for a moment
the worst our kind can do, and shudder
to know
the taint in our own selves, that awe
cracks the mind's shell and enters the
heart:
not to a flower, not to a dolphin,
to no innocent form
but to this creature vainly sure
it and no other is god-like, God
(out of compassion for our ugly
failure to evolve) entrusts,
as guest, as brother, the Word.*

It is a mystery that we would be entrusted with such a gift. Nevertheless, we have it, now what shall we do with it. With the "other" New Year, it is a good time to take stock as a congregation. In Jeremiah 31:7-14, the prophet says the people,

"shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord" and that through the gifts of "grain, the wine, and oil," their life shall, "become like a watered garden." Bethesda, these are the very elements that, combined with the Word, make up our sacrament of Holy Communion. Wonder with me how can we use these gifts to live out Jeremiah's description of God's transforming work within us? During the past year, in what ways has this church turned, "mourning into joy" (31:13), comforted those in need, and traded gladness for sorrow? What is planned for the year ahead that will cause rejoicing because of God's goodness working through this congregation?

Bethesda, you have many gifts to offer. Be like a watered garden: grow, give, and nourish all indiscriminately; for all who come to the garden are fed.

Special Giving:

In Memory of

Kathryn Vigliaturo

By Marv & Pat Durkee (Worship)

By Debby Johnson (Sunday School)

Jim Bush

By Debby Johnson (Sunday School)

Florence Holm

By Richard & Patricia Nygren

By Terry & Sue Coady

By Jerry Beckwith

Danny Summers

By Marv & Pat Durkee

Bethesda Staff

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Financial Update			
Year-to-date ending 11/30/2019			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	92033.00	96776.43	(4743.43)
Non-pledged income	13377.43	11265.00	2112.43
TOTAL INCOME	105410.43	108041.43	(2631.00)
Salaries/Compensation	65989.55	82559.45	(16569.90)
General Office Expenses	8741.07	9637.99	(896.92)
Utilities	9335.39	10449.89	(1114.50)
Other Expenses	893.97	2751.74	(1857.77)
Benevolence Expenses	1840.66	1935.53	(94.87)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	1716.88	1466.63	250.25
Social Ministry	297.00	320.87	(23.87)
Stewardship Expenses	0.00	141.63	(141.63)
Worship Expenses	2359.68	1650.00	709.68
CYFM Expenses	1760.46	2263.75	(503.29)
TOTAL EXPENSES	92934.66	113177.48	(20242.82)
Net Income	12475.77	(5136.05)	17611.82
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.			

It's that time of year again... Committee reports for the Annual Report are due in the office by January 10th, 2020. Thank you.
The Annual Meeting is January 19th, 2020 immediately following worship.

Candidates needed for 2020 Ballot for the following Committees:
(2) Candidates needed for Council (2-year term)
(3) Candidates needed for Nominating Committee (2-year term)
(1) Candidate needed for Memorial/Endowment (3-year term)
(2) Voting Members needed for 2020 Synod Assembly
(1) Adult & (1) Confirmed Youth needed for Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry Delegate (1-year term)



Bible Study for all ages meets on Sunday evenings at 6:30pm.

During the Holiday Season there will be no Bible Study Sunday January 5th. We will resume January 12th, 2020.

There is still a need for people to help with snow shoveling. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Your help is greatly appreciated!



For weather related cancellations of church services please tune in to WKLK or KBJR. You may also check Facebook or our church website.



Our sympathy and prayers to the family of George Olan Sheldon. God gives us hope and strength in the promise of the resurrection in Christ.

Thank you to the many hands who helped make this season a blessing with all of the preparations inside and out, including shoveling and plowing! Serving hearts know joy, and we also pray, our gratitude for their good work! Thank You!!!!

The Mat Makers are still collecting plastic bags. If you have bags to donate please leave them in the coat closet and someone from the group will collect them and bring them downstairs where the group is not meeting. Thank you.

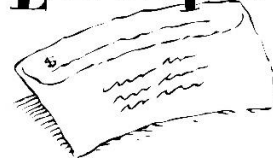
Member News



Celebrating January Baptismal Birthdays

Marlene Anderson, Lance Konietzko, Emily Matlack, Carol Bergstrom, Phyllis Rousseau, Sandy Vernon, Everly Jahr, John Holden, Laurie Sparks, Natalie Lijewski, Scott Frederick, Aaron Vick, Paul Carpenter, Merie Johnson, Julie Frederick, NancyLee Olsen, Anton Sheda & Betty Peterson.

Offering Envelopes



Last year when offering envelopes were ordered we chose to remove the dates from each individual envelope and instead replace it with a blank line that can be filled in with the dates that you are giving. Due to this new format we will not be ordering envelopes for 2020 as most likely there will be envelopes left over in your booklet. Vanco is an electronic, automatic option for giving. It is quick and easy to sign up. Simply fill out a form located outside of the Sanctuary and hand it in to the office. You can choose to donate weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or yearly. Changes can be made at any time. An additional option is to use the envelopes provided in the pews. Any questions please contact the office. Thank you.



Thank you to everyone who donated winter clothes to the coat drive. They are going to be delivered to the United Way for those in need.

THANK YOU! to all Thrivent members who applied for Action Team monies in 2019.

Each Thrivent member can apply twice a year for the \$250.00 seed monies to help the community. Examples: The "seed monies" can be used to purchase socks, mittens/gloves, jackets/coats, underwear, school supplies, mission work, diapers, food shelf, ditty bags contents, community meals2020 begins a new year and the community needs your help. Please contact your Thrivent agent or the church office for help applying for the monies.

Social Ministry

Social Ministry will be hosing coffee on January 12th in support of the Wycliffe Bible Translators.



Please remember to donate to the Food Shelf

The Salvation Army Food Shelf is located on Carlton Ave. in Cloquet. The collection box has been moved from the entryway to under the mailboxes. Please check the expiration dates on the non-perishable food items you are donating. 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.

CYF & Ed.

Confirmation classes for 10th Graders

This class prepares students for Affirmation of Baptism. Curriculum by Augsburg "Think, Do, Believe." Resuming January schedule 8,15,22,29. February 5 & 19th 2020. Meal provided at 5:30, 6:00 worship and class. February 12 will be worship with Bishop Tom.

Wednesday evening schedule will now be as follows:

5:30pm ~ Community Meal
6:00 pm ~ Worship
6:30pm ~ Confirmation Classes

The ditty bags that our 6th-9th confirmation students put together are available to be picked up in the narthex to be distributed.

Storytime Schedule:

January 5th – Storytime

January 12th – Storytime

January 19th – Jesus Story video – children’s message

January 26th – Jesus Story video – children’s message



Faith on the Go

Pray

Present God, you call us to where we need to be in your world. May we be willing to go and serve in those places. Thank you for all that you have given us for the journey, our families, our friends, food, shelter and safety. In Jesus name, amen.

Connect

Talk about your highs and lows for the day!

Bible

Matthew 2:13-23 - The Escape to Egypt

Day 1

Matthew 2: 13

When was a time that someone helped you to be safe?

Day 2

Matthew 2: 14-15

There are many connections between the Old Testament and the New Testament. Read Hosea 11:1. Why is connecting the Old Testament and the New Testament important?

Day 3

Matthew 2: 16-18

Even in the midst of Jesus coming there is still tragedy. Who has lamented with you when you experienced sorrow?

Day 4

Matthew 2: 19-21

There is a lot of traveling in this passage. How do you feel when you have been gone and you get to go home?

Day 5

Matthew 2: 22-23

The family has now settled in Nazareth. Where do you consider your home and why? Is it a place or where certain people are?

Bless

God has called you God's own.

(Make the sign of the cross on one another.)



Upcoming VLM Events:

Camper Rejuves



**Jr. High Rejuve (grades 7-9) -
February 21-22, 2020 at Camp
Vermilion**

**Elementary Rejuve (grades 3-6)-
March 6-7, 2020 – Camp Hiawatha**

**Elementary Rejuve (grades 3-6)-
March 13-14, 2020– Camp
Vermilion**

Camper Rejuves are a great way to get back to camp during the school year, or to check out camp for the upcoming summer! You'll get your camp fix on this 23 hour overnight - games, campfire, songs, friends, learning, and of course, great camp food.

Cost: \$50 per camper. A \$15 non-refundable deposit is due with your registration. Churches are welcome to register as a group, with a deposit to hold your spots. (One adult leader is free with every 8 campers when coming with a church group)

When: Registration begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and the program ends following supper on Saturday (about 6:00 p.m.). More information will be sent to all registered campers.

Space for these retreats is limited so we encourage you to register early. To register, please call the camp office at (800) 331-5148 or fill out and send a **retreat registration form.**



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

January 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Office Closed New Year's Day 9am Mat Making	2 Office Closed 3:15pm Children, Youth & Family & Ed. Meeting	3 11am Men's Bible Study	4
5 9am Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship Sing 'N Play	6	7 Office Closed 9am Mat Making 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	8 Office Closed 10am Hymn Planning Committee 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm Worship 6:30pm 10 th Grade Confirmation	9 Office Closed 1pm Jam Group	10 11am Men's Bible Study	11
12 Social Ministry ~ Wycliffe Bible Translators 9am Worship Sunday Story Time 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship Sing 'N Play	13	14 9am Mat Making Kettle River Conference 6:00pm Council Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	15 Beacon Deadline 5:30pm Community Meal 6:00pm Worship 6:30pm 10th Grade Confirmation	16 9am Staff Meeting	17 11am Men's Bible Study	18
19 9am Worship 10:15am Annual Meeting	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 9am Mat Making 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	22 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm Worship 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation	23 1pm Jam Group	24 11am Men's Bible Study	25
26 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship Sing 'N Play	27	28 9am Mat Making 6pm Al-Anon Meeting	29 5:30pm Community Meal 6pm Worship 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation	30	31 11am Men's Bible Study	

January Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 5. Tricia Hackensmith
- 12. Marv & Pat Durkee
- 19. Anna Bong
- 26. Renee Kesty

Ushers

- 5. Paul Carpenter & Pat Durkee
- 12. Mary Saarela & JoAnn Gustafson
- 19. Des Holm & Stacy Colich
- 26. Lew Castle & Ginny Korte-Castle

Lay Readers

- 5. Lynn Beatty
- 12. Pat Durkee
- 19. Linda Newlon
- 26. Paul Carpenter

Communion Assistants

- 5. Cookie Jaakola & Janice Dahl
- 12. Marlys McKinstry &
Linda Newlon
- 19. Dave & Lynn Beatty
- 26. Mary Saarela & Pat Durkee

Acolytes

- 5. Anna Bong
- 12. Nixon Mitchell
- 19. Lucas Radtke
- 26. Ethan Krone

Communion Prep & Clean

- 5. Linda Newlon (P & C)
- 12. Mary Saarela (P & C)
- 19. Pat Durkee (P & C)
- 26. Ryan Swanson(P)
Bethany Leseman(C)

Counters

- 5. Mary Saarela & Bethany Leseman
- 12. Chris Mitchell & Gene Bryant
- 19. Lorna Bryant & Gladys Sievert
- 26. Janice Dahl & Jane Joki

Coffee Servers

- 5. Rusty's Group
- 12. Social Ministry
- 19. Marlys' Group
- 26. Gladys' 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.

February Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 2. Cheryl Ankrum
- 9. Bob & Marnie Emerson
- 16. Theresa Vick
- 23. Ginny Korte-Castle

Ushers

- 2. Jon Kolb & Ryan Swanson
- 9. Paula & Noah Olsen
- 16. Debby Johnson & Paul Carpenter
- 23. Dave & Lynn Beatty

Lay Readers

- 2. Pat Durkee
- 9. Cheryl Ankrum
- 16. Bethany Leseman
- 23. Renae House

Communion Assistants

- 2. Bethany Leseman & Pat Durkee
- 9. JoAnn Gustafson & Renae House
- 16. Cookie Jaakola & Janice Dahl
- 23. Lynn & Dave Beatty

Acolytes

- 2. Anna Bong
- 9. Lucas Radtke
- 16. Ethan Krone
- 23. Nixon Mitchell

Communion Prep & Clean

- 2. Renee Kesty (P & C)
- 9. Linda Newlon (P & C)
- 16. Pat Durkee (P & C)
- 23. Ryan Swanson(P)
Bethany Leseman (C)

Counters

- 2. Lynn Beatty & Lorna Bryant
- 9. Linda Newlon & Gene Bryant
- 16. Bethany Leseman & Gladys Sievert
- 23. Chris Mitchell & Janice Dahl

Coffee Servers

- 2. Linda's Group
- 9. Social Ministry
- 16. Pat's Group
- 23. Renae's Group

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

6:00pm Worship

6:30pm Faith Formation

*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.*

