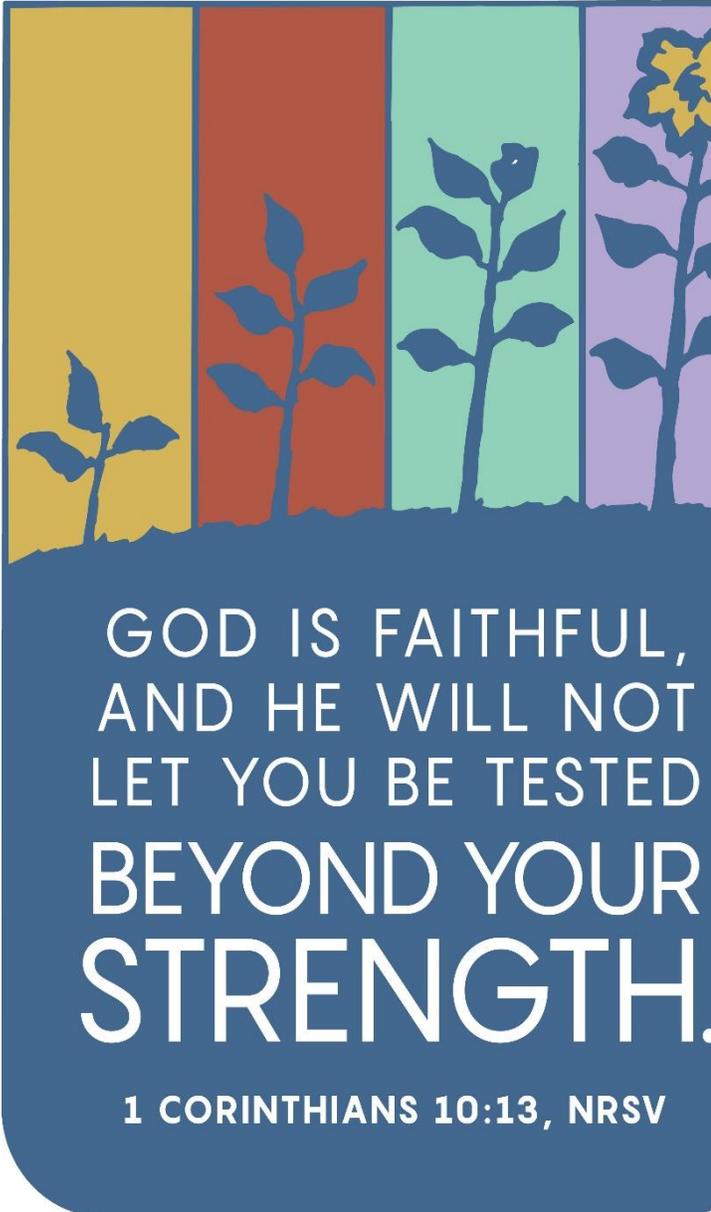




The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
March 2022



In This Month's Beacon:

*Pastor Seth's Beacon Article

*Financial Update

*Member News

*Committee Updates

*Information about the Meatball
Supper

*And More



When I was in elementary school, I went to a Lutheran school (even though I wasn't yet a Lutheran!), and every

Wednesday we would have chapel. Many of my chapel memories are mundane: the metal folding chairs, or the funky, multi-colored hymn books we sang from. Sermons, lessons, and most of everything else have long since passed from my memory.

One memory that has stuck with me, however, was Ash Wednesday. I remember so much detail from that service: waiting in line behind my classmates as we went forward to receive ashes, standing in front of a pastor, lifting up my bowl-cut bangs, and receiving a black, ashy cross on my forehead, as I heard the words...

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Even a couple decades later, I still remember this ritual! I remember the quiet excitement I felt, the experience of being marked with a cross, and the wondering about what it all meant.

What makes Ash Wednesday so special, so memorable, that this memory has been imprinted on my mind for so long?

On the face of it, Ash Wednesday doesn't seem like something that young kids, or even all of us "grown-up kids", would really enjoy. Lent, and especially Ash Wednesday, is a moment for us to confront our mortality – to acknowledge that we will, someday, return to dust!

And yet, my memory of that day was that my classmates and I all really "got it." We didn't need the ritual of Ash Wednesday to be fun or to be made child-friendly; we could tell that the ritual was meaningful, and we participated in its simple beauty wholeheartedly. The rhythm of life, even as an elementary schooler, slowed down for a time as we experienced the beauty of the words, *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

The meaning and importance of Lent and Ash Wednesday, I believe, has only grown in significance since that day that ashes were imprinted on my mind.

Our ever-quickenning pace of life has made us more hurried than ever. Many "grown-up kids" feel a heavy weight of responsibilities, without much respite. Others may feel left behind by the speed with which the world around us seems to move. And moments where the world seems to slow down for a time, seem ever harder to come by.

In this fast-paced and tiring world, we hear again these words of blessing:

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All the things that we build or strive for – as good as these things are, and as much as many of them are needed – remember that these things, like all of us, are dust. We are given only one today.

This Ash Wednesday, and this Lent, I invite you to slow down. Join us for worship on Sunday or on Wednesday; sit and breathe and perhaps pray; spend some slow time with someone; enjoy the air outside (whether warming or freezing!); or, simply be you and be in the moment.

For when we slow down – when we remember that we are dust, and embrace the goodness of Lent – we might find God’s love, imprinted on our foreheads, our minds, or even on our hearts.

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2022 Members of Bethesda Church Council

*President – Lynn Beatty

*Vice President – Deb Davis

*Secretary - Linda Newlon

*Treasurer - JoAnn Gustafson

Frank Curtiss

Debby Johnson

Dave Beatty

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.*

Financial Update			
Year-to-date ending 01/31/2022			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	8097.00	8184.00	(87.00)
Non-pledged income	(3818.91)	375.00	(4193.91)
TOTAL INCOME	4278.09	8559.00	(4280.91)
Salaries/Compensation	7194.99	7698.98	(503.99)
General Office Expenses	512.02	776.16	(264.14)
Utilities	1073.77	806.67	267.10
Other Expenses	20.09	45.00	(24.91)
Benevolence Expenses	78.89	79.34	(0.45)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	31.43	69.17	(37.74)
Social Ministry	27.00	27.08	(0.08)
Worship Expenses	600.00	533.33	66.67
CYFM Expenses	114.30	58.34	55.96
TOTAL EXPENSES	9652.49	10094.07	(441.58)
Net Income	(5374.40)	(1535.07)	(3839.33)
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.			

Wanted 2022 calendars

InterFaith Care Center, Carlton, is in need of 2022 1 calendars for its residents. The collection box will be in the narthex area. Thank you

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

has been in contact with our local churches. They are in need of PERSONAL CARE KITS items:

*Sturdy combs, *dark bath towels lightweight 20:X40" or 52"X27,"
*metal nail clippers, *adult tooth brushes in original packaging, *8-9 oz. bar soap any brand in original packaging



***"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 that we are donating an average of 50 pounds a month. Keep up the good work! *For the month of March our collection focus will be canned fruit & vegetables.* 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.

Bethesda is tentatively planning to have a meatball supper on Saturday, April 30th. We need at least 25 church members to respond with times and/or days they will work. We can be flexible with times for working parents and youth who want to help. Whether you have one hour or one day we would welcome your help. We would like to have three kitchen crews so everyone's work time is not too long. If a specific task interests you, please text/call Deb Davis @ (218)591-6486, Lynn Beatty @ (218)591-7519 or leave a message with the church office. The week before the meal the tasks are making meatballs, peeling and cooking rutabagas, baking bread, etc. The day before and after we would need help moving tables and chairs. The day of the supper, we need set up people for condiments, serving dishes, coffee, water pitchers, chafing dishes, etc. We need servers, hostesses, ticket takers, dishwashers and volunteers for bussing tables. Monetary donations would be greatly appreciated to purchase food items, paper products, etc. If sending donations, please clearly mark for meatball supper. Thank you in advance for your help.

Mark your calendars

- March 2nd Ash Wednesday service at River's Edge (across the street from Bethesda) will be at 6 o'clock.

- Mid-week Lenten services. will be at 6 p.m. starting March 9th- April 13th and there will be no meal.
- Easter Sunday worship service, April 17th, will be at 9 a.m. and there will be no breakfast



There will be a funeral service for Ron Peterson on Saturday March 5th at noon with the visitation starting at 11 and a luncheon to follow.

Member News



Celebrating March Baptismal Birthdays

Tanner Anderson, Blu Bong, Brock Peterson, Karson Davis, Kennidy Davis, Darlene Godbout, Bridger McCorison, Ryan Lindgren, Cecelia Moench, Karen Johnson, Deanna Wallin, Audrey Lokken, Brian Allen, Jared Kelley, Jason Peterson, Emily Hanson, Macguier Thorman, Jude Holden, Sullivan Kiehn, Jonathon Radtke, Paul Sell, Jason Goad, Harlow Lekander-Karsiko, Ruth Olson, Amy Schwoch, Jayden Swanson, Toni Vanguilder, Rollin Martini & Daniel Wakefield



Our deepest sympathy & prayers to Betty Swanson & family for the loss of her husband & member of Bethesda, Ron, to Jenny Lokken & family for the loss of Jenny's mom Beryl Lengyel & to the family of Beverly Drewlow former member of Bethesda and Bethesda organist. God comfort and strengthen our hearts in hope in the resurrection through Christ.

Social Ministry



Social Ministry will be hosting coffee in support of Gospel Mission or Family Pathways on March 13th after Worship.

Children, Youth, Family & Education

- Valentines have been sent to pre-k through the 4th grade
- Lent starts on March 2, 2022. Information will be sent to mentors and families to find out if they want to meet after the Lenten worship service on Wednesday nights. We will use stories from A Treasury of Miracles along with Bible readings. Questions will also be provided.
- Cardia Deo retreat will be a one day event on March 5, 2022 from 10-3:30 in Onamia. There will be no overnight retreat this year. This is open to all 10-12 graders and will be posted on

Facebook. Students will pay their deposit and CYFED will pay the remainder.

- CYFED meets the first Thursday of the month at 3:45. All are welcome to join us.

On Wednesday February 16th 25 youth and adults welcomed Bishop Amy Odgren to Bethesda. The evening began with Pastor Seth leading us in prayer followed by a game to get to know each other. Pastor Seth then introduced Bishop Amy. The Bishop introduced herself by sharing the story of her family, faith background and becoming the Bishop of 132 congregations. We then gathered in the sanctuary for worship. The Bishop gave an uplifting sermon, followed by anointing with oil, prayers, and holy communion.

March Storytime/Jesus Story video:

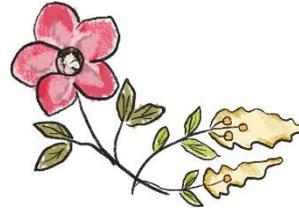
March 6th – Storytime in the gathering space

March 13th – Family Worship-Jesus Story video in the sanctuary with children's sermon

March 20th - Storytime in the gathering space

March 27th - Family Worship-Jesus Story video in the sanctuary with children's sermon

WELCA



**Kettle River
Conference
Women of the
ELCA Spring
Gathering**

Saturday April 22nd, 2022
9-noon

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Askov
Suggested lunch and expense
donation \$10

Registration begins at 9

Theme: Care of Creation

Keynote Speaker: Pr. David Carlson

Offering: Family Pathways Refuge
Network & WELCA Churchwide

Silent Auction

Bring your unit donation for Penny
Offering. Penny Offering from this
past year is for The Tree House, a
youth center in Sandstone.

Synodical Love offerings can be
brought to this Gathering in addition to
Convention Fund and Convention
Offerings.

Directions: 9318 Kirke Alle, Askov
55704

From I-35 take the Banning State Park
exit north of Sandstone. Follow Hwy
23 east and turn into Askov on
Brogade St. From Brogade, again turn
east onto Bregnedulgade (by
downtown station) and continue across
the railroad tracks to Kirke Alle

March 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	2 Ash Wednesday 1 st Day of Lent & Lenten Mentorship 6pm Worship Service @ Rivers Edge	3 8:30am Office Staff Mtg 1pm Jam Group 3:45pm Children, Youth, Family & Ed. Meeting	4 11am Bible Study	5 11am Visitation for Ron Peterson 12pm Funeral for Ron Peterson 1pm Luncheon
6 9am Worship Storytime (Fellowship Hall) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	7	8 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 4:30pm Worship Meeting 5:30pm Council Meeting 6pm Serenitv Seekers	9 Lenten Mentorship 6pm Mid-week Lenten Worship	10 8:30am Office Staff Mtg	11 11am Bible Study	12
13 SocialMinsitry~ Gospel Mission or Family Pathways 9am Worship Storytime (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship 3pm InterFaith Service	14	15 Beacon Deadline 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 5:30pm Women's Bible Study Group 6pm Serenity Seekers	16 Lenten Mentorship 5:30pm Holy Communion Class 6pm Mid-week Lenten Worship	17 St. Patrick's Day 8:30am Office Staff Mtg 1pm Jam Group	18 11am Bible Study	19 10:30am Fellowship Hall in Use~ Davis Family
20 9am Worship Storytime (Fellowship Hall) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	21	22 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 5:30pm Women's Bible Study Group 6pm Serenity Seekers	23 Lenten Mentorship 5:30pm Holy Communion Class 6pm Mid-week Lenten Worship	24 8:30am Office Staff Mtg	25 11am Bible Study	26
27 9am Worship Storytime (Sanctuary) 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	28	29 8:30am TOPS 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	30 Lenten Mentorship 5:30pm Holy Communion Class 6pm Mid-week Lenten Worship	31 8:30am Office Staff Mtg 1pm Jam Group		

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

Sunday Worship
9:00am
In House
And on Facebook
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.

