



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
January 2016



A **spiritual gift** is **given** to each of us so **we** can **help** each other.

February Beacon deadline is January 20th. Please have all submissions into this office on this day. Thank you.



January 24th: Worship service at 9:00 a.m. The Annual Meeting will follow at 10:15 a.m.

- ❖ There will be an informational meeting about the budget at 10:15 on January 17th after the worship service. Anyone who has questions or concerns should plan on attending.
- ❖ 10th Grade Confirmation classes will begin January 6th - February 3rd. There will be a meal at 6 p.m. followed by class from 6:30-7:30. Food is provided. Parents will need to pick a Wednesday to serve food & clean-up. Please contact Wendy Mitchell to let her know and for any questions. Thank you.



Interim Pastor's January Newsletter Article

Our interim transition work begins this month. Understandably, there is some confusion about what this is all about. So I hope to clarify some things in this article.

The Transition Task Force (TTF) is a group of Bethesda members who will be working with me for about six to 12 months to study, learn, plan, and have fellowship and goodies while doing it! The TTF's work will eventually culminate in a report which will provide information to both the Council for future planning, and to the Call Committee to help them in their search for your next pastor.

The TTF will begin with an orientation training session with me to alleviate any fears and set the tone for listening to how God is already at work here in the people of Bethesda. They will then schedule cottage meetings and individual one-on-one meetings, as well as send out a congregation-wide survey. The meetings and survey will give me and the TTF the opportunity to listen to you and hear what you have to say about the ministry of Bethesda. You will be asked questions like, "What issues face Bethesda at this time?" "What do you love about Bethesda?"

"What does Bethesda do well?" "What is your involvement at Bethesda?" "What changes have taken place and how have those changes affected you?" "What would you like to see happening here five years from now?" "What needs to happen for these things to occur?" "What kind of pastor do you need to move forward?" You can also share anything else you wish about the congregational life of Bethesda. The TTF will then study the information gathered, and compile a detailed report detailing what they heard from the Spirit through you. This report will also include recommendations based on what they heard. Their report will be given to the Council for their review and action, to you, and to the Call Committee to help them prepare Bethesda profile papers.

We currently have three nominees for members of the TTF. Ideally we would like between six and nine individuals. Council will review the names and approve the individuals at their January meeting. Current nominees are Colleen Bernu, Paula Olsen, and Ginny Korte-Castle. Please hand in your nominations to me no later than January 5, 2016. I am excited to begin this work with you and see what God has in store!

Peace, Pastor Cheryl

Adults of all ages are welcome to fill the Acolyte positions that are open in January and the coming months as well. Any questions or if you would like to volunteer contact a worship committee member; Joel Soukkala, Linda Newlon, Lynn Beatty or Beth Leseman.

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Attention ushers: When you are scheduled to usher, please check all the entrance doors to make sure they are locked before you leave. If there is a group of people staying at the church after fellowship please check with them to see if they want the doors locked or if they will lock the doors before they leave. Any questions please see a worship committee member.

Financial Update			
Month ending 10/31/15			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	\$13,130.00	\$16,250.00	(\$3,120.00)
Other non-pledged income	\$476.80	\$0.00	\$476.80
Expenses	\$29,278.49	\$19,465.23	\$9,813.26
Net Income	(\$15,671.69)	(\$3,215.23)	(\$12,456.46)
Other 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.			



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

Bethesda Staff

Office 384-4501

Cheryl Fleckenstein,
Interim Pastor 608-495-3147
Bobbie McCorison, Secretary 384-4501
Alice Kloepfer, Custodian
Liz Sinisalo, Accompanist
Sue Coady, Treasurer 384-3628
Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church
204 5th St – PO Box 210
Carlton MN 55718

Email: bethesda55718@msn.com

Website: www.bethesdacarlton.org



Visit our Synod's Site at
www.nemnsynod.org

Annual Report Deadline...

All **COMMITTEE REPORTS** are due by January 8th. Please have them into the office by this date. The Annual Meeting will be held January 24th.

Thank you!

The office is looking for volunteers to help assemble the Annual Report on Wednesday January 20th. If you are interested please contact the office.

Thank You.

Member News...



Celebrating January Baptismal Birthdays:

Everyone celebrating a Baptismal Birthday in January will be invited to come forward during worship on Sunday, January 24th for the Affirmation of Baptism.

Marlene Anderson, Lance Konietzko, Britt Simula, Madilynn Vermeersch, Emily Vermeersch, Holly Vermeersch, Dawn Sell, Emily Matlack, Carol Bergstrom, Tucker Kiehn, Phyllis Rousseau, Evan McKeon, Sandy Vernon, John Holden, Laurie Sparks, Scott Frederick, Paul Carpenter, Merie Johnson, Jason Ableiter, Julie Frederick, Nancy Lee Olsen, Brookelynn Sell, Brielle Simula, Nathaniel Bong, Aaron Schilla, Brandon Sell, Zariah Erikson, Jayson Grover, Anton Sheda, Betty Peterson & Natalie Lijewski.

We welcomed into the family of faith through the sacrament of Holy Baptism, Haven River Rockenstein daughter of Honah & River Rockenstein.



Our sympathy to the families of Vivian Asp, Gordy & Lil

Davis, and Jen & Joel Soukkala. God's promises of resurrection bring comfort and hope in Christ the risen savior.



Thank you to the many hands who helped make this season a blessing: in Advent worship services and suppers; in the Sunday School Program; in special music and decorations; and the many preparations inside and out! Serving hearts know joy, and we pray, our gratitude!

Social Ministry is hosting coffee on January 10th in support of Wycliffe Bible Translators.

WELCA



Thank you to all who donated money toward the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Your generous donations have helped to feed many area families!

14th ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date for the Bethesda Women's Retreat from January 21 thru January 24, 2016. Come for the entire weekend, part of the weekend or just one day.

The Retreat is at Camp Amnicon where we have enjoyed the past 13 Retreats.

Cost: \$130.00 for 3 nights
 \$ 95.00 for 2 nights
 \$ 74.00 for 1 night
 \$ 40.00 for all 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!

Please see Lynn Beatty with any questions: 384-3765 (591-7519 Cell)
or nssgbeatty@gmail.com

14th ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: _____

ARRIVE: _____ DEPART _____

AMOUNT PAID _____

NOTE: A \$25 non-refundable deposit is needed with the registration by January 8, 2016. The balance may be paid at the Retreat.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: LYNN BEATTY



SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

~ Sunday School is from
10:00-11:00 a.m.

~ Each month the Pre-K-6th graders
receive a family faith formation
devotional schedule and monthly
newsletter.

The January Sunday School Mission
Offering will be designated to our
local Food Shelf located at the
Salvation Army - 316 Cloquet Ave.
Tuesdays are distribution days.

January Overview

3rd No Sunday School

10th Know the story: classes in
classrooms

17th Know the story: classes in
classrooms

24th **No Sunday School.** Annual
Church Meeting to be held following
the worship service.

31st Mission Sunday

February Overview

7th Know the Story: classes in
classrooms

14th Know the Story: classes in
classrooms

21st Be and Tell the Story-
Intergenerational Fellowship Sunday

8th Be and Tell the Story- Mission
Sunday



Sunday School Food Shelf donations
can be dropped off in the Red Box in
the commons area downstairs.
Thank You.

LIVE SIMPLY...

...SO OTHERS MAY SIMPLY LIVE."
...SO OTHERS MAY SIMPLY LIVE"

The fleece blankets created by our
Sunday School and congregation will
be blessed by Pastor Cheryl and given
to the Carlton County homeless count
program. Fleece material is still
needed for future blanket projects.
Material can be dropped off in the
office.



**Fundraising
Programs:**

Bring in your used ink toners, inkjet cartridges, cell phones, laptops, tablets, iPods, business/VoIP phones and digital cameras. Our youth are collecting these as a fundraiser. You can place these in the donation box in the Narthex. They don't have to be in working order.

Bethesda has an account at Cloquet Riverside Recycling located at 1103 Industry Ave in Cloquet. Simply drop off your aluminum cans and ask them to put the donation on Bethesda's account. Cloquet Riverside Recycling is closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

Fisher's of Men continue to collect shiny paper. Please place your bags of paper in the collection box next to the back door.

Bring in your box tops and Campbell's soup labels to be distributed to benefit the youth in our community. There is an area on the table in the Narthex to drop these off.

Upcoming 2016 VLM Events:

Craft Beer Workshop
January 29-30, 2016

Interested in learning about the art of brewing your own beer? Already know how but interested in "talking shop" with other brewers? Join us for a time of brewing, fellowship, conversation, and hands-on-learning.

Cost: \$100 per adult

Includes: instruction, lodging and food
RSVP by January 22nd by contacting the VLM office.

www.VLMcamps.org ~

vlm@VLMcamps.org ~

1-800-331-5148



Paddle Building Workshop

February 26-28, 2016

This weekend long class includes four 3 hour sessions during which you will complete your own paddle from gluing wood blanks to a finished work of art.

We will send you home with varnish so you can waterproof your paddle and use it on your next adventure!

Cost: \$200 per paddle

2 people can build a paddle together; an add'l \$50 will be charged to cover food and housing for the second person.

To register contact the camp office or register online at

www.VLMcamps.org/paddle-building-workshop.



Winter Fun Day

Saturday, February 27, 2016

1-4 p.m.

Take some time to play at Camp

Vermillion. Bring your snowshoes or cross-country skis and explore the trails around camp.

There will also be sledding, fellowship and games & hot cocoa and snacks.

Cost: \$5 per person. \$20 family max.

Includes all activities and snacks.

To register or get more information contact the VLM office at

800-331-5148 or register online at

www.VLMcamps.org and go to the Winter Fun Day page.



Elementary Rejuve

March 6-7 & 13-14 at Camp Hiawatha

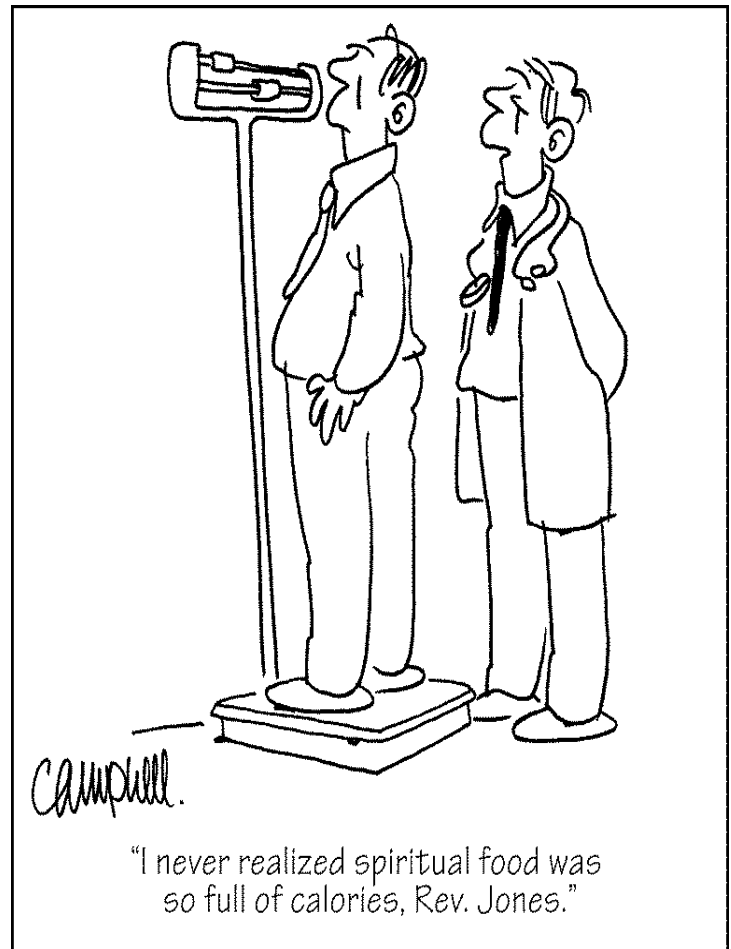
March 20-21 at Camp Vermillion

This is an overnight retreat for 3rd-6th graders. It's 23 hours filled with games, worship, learning, meeting new friends and enjoying a variety of camp activities. Our theme for this spring is "Me? A Witness?" We will spend time talking about how we are called to share God and Jesus with others.

Cost: \$50 per camper

Space is limited so early registration is encouraged.

To register, complete a form at www.VLMcamps.org/forms or contact the main VLM office. A \$15 deposit is due when you register.



January 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship	4 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	5 9am Weekly Staff Meeting 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	6 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation Meal 6:30pm 10 th grade Confirmation Class	7 5:45pm Youth & Family Ministry Planning	8 Annual Report Deadline 11am Men's Bible Study	9
10 Social Min- Wycliffe Bible Translators 9am Worship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship 11:30am Bethesda's Youth Group Meets	11 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	12 9am Weekly Staff Meeting	13 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation Meal 6:30pm 10 th grade Confirmation Class	14 11pm Worship Committee Meeting 1pm Jam Group	15 11am Men's Bible Study	16
17 9am Worship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee/ Fellowship 11:30am Bethesda's Youth Group Meets	18 Martin Luther King Day 1pm Bethesda Quilters 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	19 9am Weekly Staff Meeting	20 Beacon Deadline 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation Meal 6:30pm 10 th grade Confirmation Class	21	22 11am Men's Bible Study	23
24/*31 9am Worship 10am Annual Meeting *9am Worship *10am Sunday School *10:15am Coffee/Fellowship *11:30am Youth Group Meets	25 12pm Fellowship Hall In Use- Debby Johnson 5:45pm Women's Bible Study	26 9am Weekly Staff Meeting	27 6pm 10 th Grade Confirmation Meal 6:30pm 10 th grade Confirmation Class	28 1pm Jam Group	29 11am Men's Bible Study	30

January Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 3. Ron & Betty Peterson
- 10. Alice Kloepfer
- 17. Brad & Lori Bunge
- 24. Kevin & Amy Olesen
- 31. Marv & Pat Durkee

Ushers

- 3. Ryan Swanson &
Larry Beckstrom
- 10. Dave & Lynn Beatty
- 17. Craig & Callie Holm
- 24. JoAnn Gustafson & Paula Olsen
- 31. Cody & Cary Martin

Lay Readers

- 3. Karin Towslee
- 10. Julianne Emerson
- 17. Pat Durkee
- 24. Cheryl Ankrum
- 31. Reta Baxley

Communion Assistants

- 3. Gordy Davis
- 10. Jean Johnson & Keith &
Reta Baxley
- 17. Marlys McKinstry &
Julianne Emerson
- 24. Mary Saarela, Sharon Bragge,
Randy Schmitz & Pat Durkee
- 31. Dave & Lynn Beatty & Duane &
Dawn Soukkala

Acolytes

- 3. Colin Emerson
- 10. Anna Bong
- 17. Noah Olsen
- 24. **Volunteer Needed
- 31. **Volunteer Needed

Communion Prep & Clean

- 3. Mary Saarela
- 10. Pat Durkee
- 17. Julie Frederick & Joel Soukkala
- 24. Ryan Swanson &
Sharon Bragge
- 31. George Saarela

Counters

- 3. Lori Bunge & Lorna Bryant
- 10. Bethany Leseman &
Chris Mitchell
- 17. Lynn Beatty & Janice Dahl
- 24. Gene Bryant & Dawn Soukkala
- 31. Mary Saarela & Beth Leseman

February Volunteers

9:00

Greeters

- 7. Tricia Hackensmith
- 14. Dave & Lynn Beatty
- 21. Julianne Emerson
- 28. Debby Johnson

Acolytes

- 7. Colin Emerson
- 14. Anna Bong
- 21. Noah Olsen
- 28. *Volunteer Needed

Ushers

- 7. Lew Castle & Sandy Vernon
- 14. Al & Florence Holm
- 21. Jonathan Kolb &
Larry Beckstrom
- 28. Gordy & Lil Davis

Communion Prep & Clean

- 7. Julie Frederick & Linda Newlon
- 14. Sharon Bragge
- 21. Gordy & Lil Davis
- 28. Renee Kesty

Lay Readers

- 7. Brad Bunge
- 14. Jean Johnson
- 21. Earleen Hanson
- 28. Randy Schmitz

Counters

- 7. Lori Bunge & Lynn Beatty
- 14. Chris Mitchell & Janice Dahl
- 21. Lorna Bryant & Beth Leseman
- 28. Dawn Soukkala & Gene Bryant

Communion Assistants

- 7. Pat Durkee & Julianne Emerson
- 14. Janice Dahl & Stacy Colich
- 21. JoAnn Gustafson &
Linda Newlon
- 28. Paul & Sarah Carpenter