



# **The Bethesda Beacon**

*Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN*  
June 2023

CALL TO ME  
AND  
*I will*  
ANSWER YOU

JEREMIAH 33:3

## **This Month's Beacon**

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**From Pastor Seth**

## **4 Ways to Take Faith with You This Summer!**

Allow me to say to you – congratulations! You made it through another winter!

But before we say “Have a great summer, see you next fall!”, I’ve got something important for you to thinking about.

Summer is an incredible time, especially in Minnesota. The weather is warmer, school is out, and everything seems to slow down and thaw out. Many of us head to the lake, the cabin, the camper, summer camp, or the relatives for weeks at a time.

Summer also can take us away from the people and places where we most often practice faith and experience the presence of God. It’s possible for us to come back disconnected from God and from our neighbor, more relaxed but without having grown even a bit as followers of Jesus.

Summer is a great time to grow in faith! For kids, it’s a chance to see that God is with them wherever they are, not just in their usual places.

For youth, it’s a chance to try new things in faith and see that faith isn’t just something done at church. For adults, it’s a chance to grow while the stresses of daily life are lowered.

So here’s the question: how will you take faith with you this summer?

*Here are a few things you could try:*

### **1. Go outside and sit quietly for 20 minutes.**

Sometimes, nature can be a “thin” place, where the gap between us and God is thinner. Though we often don’t take time to, it takes most people about 20 minutes to tune out our thoughts and worries and tune in to the presence of God.

Find a spot under a tree or by the water, and listen, pray, or reflect in the presence of God.

### **2. Learn a campy prayer and pray it at dinner with kids in the family.**

There’s lots of good ones, but “Johnny Appleseed” or “Adam’s Family” are two old favorites to look up. Have fun with it, and invite kids and adults alike to learn and sing it with you as a mealtime prayer.

### **3. Read a book of the Bible**

Summer can offer time to sit back and read a good book. Why not try reading one book of the Bible? Our holy scriptures are our source of holy wisdom, and we believe that God still speaks to us through the words of scripture. If you’ve never read one before, try the book of Acts; it has stories of faith and God in the early church that are incredible! Or if you prefer something short, how about the epistle of Galatians? Find a good study Bible (I’ll give you one if you don’t have one, I’ve got lots!) and see what happens.

### **4. Be curious about meaning, purpose, or belonging with someone**

In many families, faith talk can start fights.

But I think that can come from our old patterns of trying to controlling each other and talking past each other. So instead of talking just about belief or church, why not try being curious about the deeper needs that we find in faith. Here’s one good question:

“What gives you purpose?” Or here’s another: “What brings you the most joy in life?” “Where do you feel like you belong?”

It might end up in faith conversations, it might not, but I’ve never met anyone who wasn’t grateful when someone genuinely wanted to know more about them.

No matter what you do this summer, and no matter where you go, I hope you'll bring faith with you. It just might be life-changing!  
**Remember, something is better than nothing; and you don't have to be an expert .** Just give it a try, and see what God does with what you offer!

**Bethesda Staff**

Seth Wynands, Pastor  
 Phone: 424-337-0350

Email: pastor@bethesdacarlton.org

Stephanie Erickson-Russell, Admin.  
 Phone: 218-384-4501

Email: bethesda55718@msn.com

Nita Davis, Accountant/Bookkeeper:  
 Phone: 515-890-1235

Email: nita@davisbooksandtax.com

Ronay Frank, Custodian  
 Anna Bong, Custodian  
 Cathy Dale, Accompanist

**God's Work our Hands: Year-Round**

Consider hemming precut diaper squares, and onesies. Located on the table in the narthex.

**Social Ministry**

Social Ministry will be continuing the collection of hygiene products; shampoo, toothpaste, personal care products for the Damiano Center. They will also be collecting larger backpacks and suitcases with wheels. Please bring gently used items. There is a box for each in the Fellowship Hall.

**2023 Members of Bethesda**

**Church Council**

Jason Goad ..... President

Deb Davis .....Vice President

Jen Goad .....Secretary

Jeannette Korpela .....Treasurer

JoAnn Gustafson

Debby Johnson

Renee Kesty

If you have items that you wish to be addressed by council, contact a member of the Executive Committee at:  
 bethesdalutherancouncil@gmail.com

*Council Meeting Minutes can be found on the rotating bulletin board or on our website.*

June Council Meeting will be held  
 June 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

<b>Financial Update</b>			
Year to date as of 4/30/2023			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	33551.42	32325.00	1226.42
Non-pledged income	15967.98	10633.32	5334.66
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>49519.40</b>	<b>42958.32</b>	<b>6561.08</b>
Salaries/Compensation	33575.83	34180.23	(604.40)
General Office Expenses	3078.50	2796.04	282.46
Utilities	4277.95	3821.68	456.27
Other Expenses	912.47	1346.64	434.17
Benevolence Expenses	311.81	363.32	(51.51)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	6534.32	843.36	5690.96
Social Ministry	108.00	108.32	(0.32)
Worship Expenses	466.28	433.34	32.94
CYFM Expenses	1151.87	1911.68	(759.81)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>50417.03</b>	<b>45804.61</b>	<b>4612.42</b>
<b>Net operating income</b>	<b>(897.63)</b>	<b>(2846.29)</b>	<b>1948.66</b>
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.			

## Collecting for a Cause: Ongoing

Pop tops off aluminum cans: given to The Ronald McDonald House.

Brown paper grocery bags: given to a non-profit thrift store.

Hygiene products: given to those in need.

New greeting cards: given to Interfaith Care Center, Carlton Place, and Pineview Apartments for Residents to use.

Fall of this year - next year's calendars: given to residents at Interfaith Care Center.

Above items can be dropped off in the narthex area.

Food Shelf Items: donated to the Cloquet Salvation Army.

**June/July Items** - Paper products: toilet paper, Kleenex, toweling, feminine products...

Collection box located near basement stairs.

Clean plastic shopping bags: Mat Makers use them to create 6' x 3' sleeping mats for those in need.

Drop plastic bags off in small coat closet in the Narthex.

*Thank you for making a difference!*

## Looking Back {A Recap}

Confirmation for Kayla Radtke was held on Sunday, April 30, 2023. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a special day of blessings for Kayla.

Thank you to our highway cleanup crew! George, Mary, Dave, Lynn, Sharon, Larry, and Pat helped beautify God's Earth by picking up 4 large bags of garbage along Bethesda's highway stretch on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. *Let's help keep it clean by putting our trash in garbage cans/bags and not littering our roadways!*



Thank you to the group who took time to clean up the grounds surrounding the church! It was a big project that included removing some of the trees that were lost over the winter. And an extra thank you to Larry Beckstrom for putting the group together!

On May 14<sup>th</sup> we thanked Bobbie McCorison for her 9 wonderful years of service and wished her good luck and God's blessings on her next adventure.

Stephanie Erickson-Russell will now be serving as Bethesda's Church Administrator. Stephanie has been a member of Bethesda her whole life and is looking forward to filling this role.



## Member News



### **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.

WITH DEEPEST  
*Sympathy*

Our deepest sympathy & prayers to Harold and Cheryl Ankrum, and all who were close to Donna Mae Hoffman-Rabideaux, who passed away on Sunday, May 7.

To Paula Olsen, Noah Olsen, as well as their family and friends as they mourn the loss of their mother and grandmother Nancy Lee Olsen, who passed away Saturday, May 13.

And to Sylvia Martini and the loved ones of Rollie Martini, who passed on Saturday, May 20.

May God embrace you in this time of grief and bring healing to your hearts.



Prayers of strength and healing for Daryl Bong, as he undergoes and recovers from rotator cuff surgery. For Brandon Sell, as he moves forward with his upcoming heart procedure. And continued healing for Arlyn Sievert as he makes progress in his recovery.

**Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.**

**June 2023 J.A.M//Message**

June 4 <sup>th</sup>	No J.A.M
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Message with Pastor Seth
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Message with Pastor Seth

**New Wine** will have a short performance at Bethesda on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> following the 9:30 service. This will be a joint service with River's Edge.

**Summer Stretch 2023: June 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>**

Summer Stretch is an opportunity for middle school youth to spend time in service to our community and in fellowship together. Each morning, youth will be doing local service work and each afternoon they will be engaging in a surprise fellowship activity!

For students that finished 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade in the Spring of 2023

For more information, please contact  
Pastor Seth

**Save the Date: 2024 Youth Gathering**

This will take place in New Orleans, July 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. More details to follow!

**CYFED will not have a meeting in June**

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the library.

All are welcome to join us. We are always looking for ideas to get our youth involved. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, please feel free to contact a committee member.

~Thank you from the CYFED Committee:  
Pastor Seth, Wendy Mitchell, Linda Newlon,  
Diana Davis, and JoAnn Gustafson.

The Stewardship Challenge for grades 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> continues. One student has completed their \$20.00 challenge and their \$100.00 challenge. Three more students are working on their \$20.00. Once they complete the \$20.00 challenge, they will be given the final \$100.00.



**2023 Community Day Camp**

This is a Pilot Program that will run at four different locations within our NEMN synod, Bethesda is partnering with Our Saviors.

Community Day Camp will include volunteer training in each community on Sundays, programming with youth Monday-Thursday from 9a-3p, and a community event specific to each church and community. Feedback from this program will be used to evaluate day camp programming in future years.

Dates: July 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>

Ages: Grades K-5

Location: Our Saviors Lutheran Church,  
Cloquet

**VLM Summer Camp Schedule -  
Hiawatha**

July 6-7: Grades K-4 (7/6, 7.7)  
Grades K-4 Overnight (7/6-7/7)

July 9-14: Grades K-4 (7/10, 7/11, 7/12,  
7/13)

Grades 3-4, Grades 5-6, & Grades 7-9

July 16-21: Grades 2-4 (7/16-7/18)  
Grades 5-6 & Grades 7-9

July 23-28: Family Camp

July 30-Aug 4: Family Camp (7/30-8/2)  
Rendezvous (8/2-8/4)

**VLM Summer Camp Schedule -  
Vermillion**

July 6-7: Grades K-4 (7/6, 7.7)  
Grades K-4 Overnight (7/6-7/7)

July 9-14: Grades 5-6, Grades 7-9, & 10-12

July 16-21: Grades 5-6, Grades 7-9, & 10-12

July 23-28: Grades 3-4, 5-6, & 7-9

July 30-Aug 4: Grades 3-4, 5-6, & 7-9

August 6-11: Grades 2-4 (8/6-8/8)  
Grades K-4 (8/7, 8/8, 8/9, 8/10)

More information at: [www.vlmcamps.org](http://www.vlmcamps.org)

**June Worship Assistants**

If you are unable to be here for the date that you are scheduled, please try to find a replacement. Thank you!

**Greeters**

6/4 ..... Sharon Bragge  
6/11 ..... Lynn Beatty  
6/18 ..... Ginny Korte-Castle  
6/25 ..... Ryan Swanson

**Ushers**

6/4 ..... Terry & Sue Coady  
6/11 ..... Sharon Bragge & Mary Saarela  
6/18 .. Debby Johnson & Cheryl Ankrum  
6/25 ..... Craig & Roxane Schmitz

**Lector**

6/4 ..... Pat Durkee  
6/11 ..... Cheryl Ankrum  
6/18 ..... Kevein Conley  
6/25 ..... Linda Newlon

**Acolyte**

6/4 ..... Anna  
6/11 ..... Alex  
6/18 ..... Mason  
6/25 ..... Ailie

**Communion Assistants**

6/4 ..... Daryl & Linda Bong  
6/11 ..... Andrea Wynands & Alex  
6/18 ..... Jason & Jen Goad  
6/25 ..... JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie

**Counters**

6/4 ..... Lori Bunge & Chris Mitchell  
6/11 ..... Lynn Beatty & Mary Saarela  
6/18 ..... Jason & Jen Goad  
6/25 . Linda Newlon & JoAnn Gustafson

**Coffee Serving Schedule**

June 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Deb's Group  
June 11<sup>th</sup> ..... Renae's Group  
June 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Marlys's Group  
June 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Gladys's Group

## Looking Ahead

### Community Bonfire: June 21<sup>st</sup>

Bonfire/Service will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, Cloquet, in their back parking lot. All are welcome!

Bonfire/Hot Dog Roasting: 5:15p-6:30p

Service: 6:30p-7:00p

Activities to follow

Future dates include July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup>

**Book/Article Study** is held on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. We are looking at using a video/book study.

**Bible Study** is planned for later in 2023, they are looking at a fall/winter class. The group is Ginny Korte-Castle, Myrna Postal, Wendy Mitchell, and Diana Davis. They all have a lesson they are reviewing and will regroup this summer to work out the details. Friday Bible Study consists of 6-7 attending.

### God's Work our Hands: Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

This is Bethesda's 10<sup>th</sup> year participating in this community event. *Thank you* to all who have shared their time and talent throughout these years!

### **Church Involvement**

Please prayerfully consider volunteering as a Worship Assistant {see Stephanie Erickson-Russell}, to assist with coffee serving {see Mary Saarela}, or to serve on the Property Committee {see Lynn Beatty}. Your time and talent would be so appreciated!

## Community News

### Mr. Flip's Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser: Thursday, June 1

Where: Heather's Café, Cloquet

When: June 1 from 4:00p-8:00p

Cost: \$10/plate, dine-in or takeout

All proceeds from this event will go to Carlton's Health/PE Teacher and Boys Basketball Coach Shawn Filipiak to help with medical bills and loss of wages as he was recently diagnosed with stage 3 testicular cancer, and it has spread.

Please keep Shawn in your thoughts and prayers as he continues this journey.

### Interfaith Care Center

Bethesda holds a church service at Interfaith Care Center the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month in the IFCC Community Room at 3:00 p.m. Service lasts 20-30 minutes with coffee and treats served after by the Ladies of Kaleva. All are welcome to join!

### Chum Update

With summer approaching, Chum is looking for donations of blankets, tarps, tents, and sleeping bags. If you are able to donate these can be dropped off in the Narthex area.



Happy Father's Day!



{June 18<sup>th</sup>} to all fathers and father figures.  
We are blessed to have you!



# June 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 <b>11am</b> Bible Study	3
4 <b>9:30am</b> Joint Service: New Wine @ Worship <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship	5	6 <b>9am</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6pm</b> Serenity Seekers	7	8 <b>1pm</b> Jam Group	9 <b>11am</b> Bible Study	10
11 <b>8:30am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>3pm</b> Interfaith Service	12	13 <b>9am</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6pm</b> Serenity Seekers	14	15 <b>5:30pm</b> Ladies of Kaleva Mtg.  <b>*Beacon Deadline</b>	16 <b>11am</b> Bible Study	17
18 <b>8:30am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship	19	20 <b>9am</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>4pm</b> Worship Committee Mtg. <b>5:30pm</b> Council Mtg. <b>6pm</b> Serenity Seekers	21	22 <b>1pm</b> Jam Group	23 <b>11am</b> Bible Study	24
25 <b>8:30am</b> Worship: Baptismal Birthdays <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship	26	27 <b>9am</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6pm</b> Serenity Seekers	28	29	30 <b>11am</b> Bible Study	

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

# June

**Sunday Worship**

**8:30am**

***In House and Online***

You can also view the Beacon  
on our website at  
[bethesdacarlton.org](http://bethesdacarlton.org)

If you would like to have a copy  
mailed or emailed to you, please  
contact the office.