



The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN
May-June 2024



There 's no
Greater love
than this

This Month's Beacon

Pastor's Beacon Article

Staff & Council

Updates

Financials

Collecting for a Cause//Donation Items

Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.

Baptismal Birthdays

Coffee & Worship Assistant Schedules

Looking Back//Looking Ahead

Calendars

Sunday Worship

8:30am

In House and Online

You can also view the Beacon on our
website at bethesdacarlton.org

If you would like to have a copy emailed
to you, please contact the office at
office@bethesdacarlton.org

From Pastor Seth

What's that got to do with it!?!?

Here's a fun (ok, nerdy, but also fun and important!) Bible trivia question: What does the story of Pentecost, and the book of James, have in common???

The book of James is famous for its calls for action. And James doesn't mess around. Twice in James chapter 2, we read this absolute barnburner of a verse: "Faith without works is dead."

Dead?!? Ouch!

James was one of Martin Luther's least favorite books because of its emphasis on the necessity of works in faith.

As Lutherans, it's crucial for us to study not just the books we like but also the ones we have more trouble with – like the book of James!

So what does this somewhat cranky but definitely exciting epistle have to do with Pentecost – with the coming of the Holy Spirit?

Well, if we look closely, Jesus actually shares this same call to action as James does.

In the Pentecost story in John 20, Jesus is appearing to all the disciples for the first time. First, of course, he says, "Peace be with you" so they don't freak out. But after a moment, he says to them something similar to what was written for the early church a few decades later. This is what he says: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Then he breathed on them, and they received the Holy Spirit – what the story of Pentecost is all about.

In other words, what the book of James has to do with the story of Pentecost is a call to action.

Jesus was commissioning Mary Magdalene, Peter, and all the other disciples to carry on the work he had started through the work of the Holy Spirit.

He was commissioning them not only to faith as belief but to faith as love – love for God, for each other, and for their neighbors in need.

Who has God "commissioned" you to serve in your life? And how about now – who is God commissioning you to love, to care for, or to serve?

Whoever it is, don't forget that the Holy Spirit works with you to do the work of Jesus. You don't have to do it all – just go with what the Spirit is already doing, and let all you do be done in love.

May you have a moving Pentecost, a good James Bible Study in May if you're joining, and a blessed spring for you and for all whom you love.

-Pastor Seth Wynands



IFCC Service Reminder

Bethesda holds a service at Interfaith Care Center the 2nd Sunday of each month in the IFCC Community Room at 3:00 p.m. *All are welcome to join!*

Bethesda Staff

Seth Wynands, Pastor
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Cathy Dale, Accompanist
 Anna Bong, Custodian
 Ronay Frank, Custodian

**Current Members of Bethesda
 Church Council**

Roxane Schmitz President
 Lynn Beatty Vice President
 Jen Goad Secretary
 Jeannette Korpela Treasurer

Diana Davis
 Jason Goad
 JoAnn Gustafson
 Debby Johnson
 Linda Newlon

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

Next Council Meeting will be held May 21st at 6:00p and
 will be a joint meeting.

Updates Continued...

thank you

Highway Cleanup Crew

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to clean up Bethesda's stretch of highway again this year!

From the Funeral Committee

Thank you so much to everyone who has taken the time to prepare and serve food, to set up and clean up, and to host the funeral for Gordy Davis. Your presence, time, and the gifts you share are so appreciated. Our Congregation is such a wonderful blessing. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Beacon Update

The Beacon will continue to be printed, mailed, and posted every month but will now accommodate more information, such as additional committee updates and happenings for the upcoming month and a half or so. To make this happen the deadline to get information to the office has been moved to the 22nd of each month. Thank you!

Financial Update

Year to date as of 03/31/2024

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	29103.00	27500.01	1602.99
Non-pledged income	11080.78	9875.01	1205.77
TOTAL INCOME	40183.78	37375.02	2808.76
Salaries/Compensation	25725.88	25909.86	(183.98)
General Office Expenses	1508.45	2890.50	(1382.05)
Utilities	3575.79	3676.23	(100.44)
Other Expenses	185.12	297.48	112.36
Benevolence Expenses	291.03	275.01	16.02
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	647.13	907.50	(260.37)
Social Ministry	81.00	81.24	(0.24)
Worship Expenses	148.00	399.99	(251.99)
CYFM Expenses	1017.66	1198.74	(181.08)
TOTAL EXPENSES	33180.06	35636.55	(2456.49)
Net operating income	7003.72	1738.47	5265.25

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.

Updates

Memorials & Donations

The Memorial Committee has a new fund designation set up titled "Basement Project" as the basement is in need of waterproofing. If you'd like to designate your donation to this fund, please make a note on your contribution for "Basement Project".

Thank you

Collecting for a Cause

Brown Paper Bags | New Greeting Cards | Pop Tops

Ditty Bags

Bar soap in original wrapping (no ivory), wash cloths, toothbrushes, medium or large toothpaste, small or medium-sized notebooks, razors, sturdy combs, travel-sized shampoo/conditioner/lotions, sewing kits...

Boxes for above items located in Narthex area.

Hygiene products for the Damiano Center

Shampoo, toothpaste, and personal care products as well as larger backpacks and suitcases with wheels. Please bring gently used items.

Making Mats for the Homeless:

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.

Baby Kits:

Flannel sheets and pillowcases, sleepers, onesies, baby blankets, receiving blankets, and socks (sizes 0-2y)

Sewers Needed

Consider hemming precut diaper squares, and onesies.

WITH SYMPATHY

To the families and friends of Judy Lengyel, Gordy Davis, John Foss, and Steve Colich, know that our hearts are with you, and you are in our prayers.

May the love of those close to you, those in your community, and our Heavenly Father comfort you in this season of mourning.

Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.

May 2024 J.A.M//Message

May 5 th	NO Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
May 12 th	Message with Pastor Seth
May 19 th	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
May 26 th	Message with Pastor Seth

June 2024 J.A.M//Message

June 2 nd	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
June 9 th	NO Message with Pastor Seth
June 16 th	Jesus and Me [J.A.M]
June 23 rd	Message with Pastor Seth
June 30 th	NO Jesus and Me [J.A.M]

Graduation Meal

Saturday, May 18th

Graduation Ceremony/Blessing of the Quilts

Sunday, May 19th | During Service

If you know someone graduating, please let a CYFED Committee Member know so they can be presented with a quilt.

CYFED will meet on May 7th at 5:30p 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.



May Baptismal Birthdays

Joyce Cerny, Alaina Kiehl, Colleen Bernu, Wes Buscko, Beth Towslee, Devan Towslee, Willow Towslee, Judy Lindquist, Jaiden Soukkala, Paige Dittberner, Lucas Radtke, Alecia Radtke, Mason Radtke, Kayla Radtke, Jared Stirewalt, Cody Martin, Jackson Radtke, Nicholas Radtke, Tayler Ostby, Janice Dahl, Flaxxen Kincade, Jacquelyn Gunderson, Kylee Crisp, Casey Marciniak, Cheryl Ankrum & Audrey Kavanaugh.

May 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

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson
5/19 Ginny Korte-Castle & Lori Bunge
5/26 Mary Saarela & Linda Newlon

Ushers

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson
5/19 Cheryl Ankrum & Ryan Swanson
5/26 Mary Saarela & Lynn Beatty

Lector

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 Cheryl Ankrum
5/19 Ginny Korte-Castle
5/26 Pat Durkee

Acolyte

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 Ailie
5/19 Mason
5/26 Anna

Communion Assistants

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie
5/19 Jason & Jen Goad
5/26 Sharon Bragge & Pat Durkee

Counters

5/5 Joint Service @ River's Edge
5/12 Mary Saarela & Gladys Sievert
5/19 Lori Bunge & Bev Mangan
5/26 Lynn Beatty & Linda Newlon

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

6/2 Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson
6/9 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie
6/16 Linda Newlon & Mary Saarela
6/23 Rod & Deb Davis
6/30 Jason and Jen Goad

Ushers

6/2 Sharon Bragge & Debby Johnson
6/9 Terry and Sue Coady
6/16 Cheryl Ankrum & Debby Johnson
6/23 Craig & Roxane Schmitz
6/30 Pat Durkee & Lynn Beatty

Lector

6/2 Wendy Mitchell
6/9 Lynn Beatty
6/16 Linda Newlon
6/23 Roxane Schmitz
6/30 Pat Durkee

Acolyte

6/2 Anna
6/9 Ailie
6/16 Mason
6/23 Anna
6/30 Mason

Communion Assistants

6/2 Chris & Wendy Mitchell
6/9 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie
6/16 Jason & Jen Goad
6/23 Pat Durkee & Deb Davis
6/30 Sharon Bragge & Linda Newlon

Counters

6/2 Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis
6/9 Lynn Beatty & JoAnn Gustafson
6/16 Mary Saarela & Gladys Sievert
6/23 Linda Newlon & Lori Bunge
6/30 Lynn Beatty & Bev Mangan



Coffee Service



May Coffee Serving Schedule

5/5 Gladys's Group
 5/12 Jeanette's Group
 5/19 Ginny's Group
 5/26 Pat's Group

June Coffee Serving Schedule

6/2 Cary's Group
 6/9 Linda's Group
 6/16 Deb's Group
 6/23 Renae's Group
 6/30 Lori's Group

Looking Back

Congratulations to Annabelle and Tucker on their Confirmation of Faith!



Looking Ahead

Book/Article Study

Book/Article Study is still held on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30p. *All are welcome to join!*

Adult Bible Study – The Book of James

Thursday, May 2nd – Thursday, May 30th
 Bethesda's Fellowship Hall

BYOB: Bring Your Own Bible and a one-time donation of \$10 to cover food/snacks

Questions? Contact Diana at 218-393-7324 or dianakaydavis33@gmail.com

JOINT SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH



9:30A | RIVER'S EDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PERFORMANCE BY NEW WINE

ALL ARE WELCOME

Save the Date – God's Work Our Hands

GWOH will be held Sunday, September 15, 2024 – More information to come!

May 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 6p Serenity Seekers	1	2 5:30p Bible Study – The Book of James	3 11a Bible Study	4
5 9:30 Joint Worship @ River's Edge Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall in Use 3p Interfaith Service	6	7 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 5:30p CYFED Meeting 6p Serenity Seekers	8	9 1p Jam Group 5:30p Bible Study – The Book of James	10 11a Bible Study	11
12 8:30a Worship 9:45a Coffee/Fellowship 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	13	14 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 6p Serenity Seekers	15	16 5:30p Ladies of Kaleva Mtg. 5:30p Bible Study – The Book of James	17 11a Bible Study	18 Fellowship Hall in Use
19 8:30a Worship – Graduation Blessing 9:45a Coffee/Fellowship 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge	20	21 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 4:30p Worship Committee Mtg. 6p Joint Council Mtg. 6p Serenity Seekers	22 <i><u>New Beacon Deadline</u></i>	23 1p Jam Group 5:30p Bible Study – The Book of James	24 11a Bible Study	25
26 8:30a Worship – Baptismal Birthdays 9:45a Coffee/Fellowship 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge	27	28 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 6p Serenity Seekers	29	30 5:30p Bible Study – The Book of James	31 11a Bible Study Fellowship Hall in Use	

June 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Fellowship Hall in Use
2 8:30a Worship 9:45a Coffee/ Fellowship 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge	3	4 9a Making Mats for the Homeless 5:30p CYFED Meeting 6p Serenity Seekers	5	6 1p Jam Group	7 11a Bible Study	8
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