

# **The Bethesda Beacon**

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

*204 5<sup>th</sup> St. P.O Box 210*

*Carlton, MN 55718*

*May 2025*

... know the hope  
to which he has  
called you.

EPHESIANS 1:18, NIV

## **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

Calendar

And More...

## **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  
emailed to you, please contact the  
office at [office@bethesdacarlton.org](mailto:office@bethesdacarlton.org)



## 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 it's 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 blessed spring for you and for all whom you love.

*-Pastor Seth Wynands*

### **Council Happenings From Your President**

#### **Secretary Position:**

I'm happy to announce that *Nalani Palchizaca Dotseth* has been hired as our new secretary! She will start on May 13th and be working in the office 25 hours a week. Let's make her feel welcome at Bethesda.

*If anyone has questions about her position or job duties, please contact me.*

#### **Did you Know?:**

*\*Council meetings are open to all: Held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:30. If you would like to be on the agenda for a specific topic, let Diana Davis know and/or by emailing [bethesalutherancouncil.com](mailto:bethesalutherancouncil.com).*

*Agendas are set by the Sunday before the Council Meetings*

**\*Blessing Box-** *remains* located in the narthex on the long table with directions. If you think of a question, ideas, or comment you want the council to know, jot it down & drop it

in the box. This is checked by me &/or Pastor and will be directed to the right person on the council to answer your question.

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Nita Davis is resigning from her position as Bookkeeper/Accountant, her last day will be May 31st.

***We appreciate Nita's services and guidance she has provided to Bethesda!***

The council executive committee will be reviewing the role/s of this position and working on finding a replacement.

*If any member has an interest in this paid position, or knows of someone who might be, contact myself, Pastor or Lynn Beatty. Catch us at church or send a message to [bethesalutherancouncil.com](mailto:bethesalutherancouncil.com)*

I'm always open to have coffee & conversation,

Roxane

Day Camp will be July 20 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> . Watch for more details to follow.
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#### **IFCC Service Reminder**

Bethesda holds a service at Interfaith Care Center the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month in the Community Room at 2:30 p.m. <i>All are welcome to join.</i>
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### **Bethesda Staff**

Seth Wynands, Pastor

Phone: 424-337-0350

Email: [pastor@bethesdacarlton.org](mailto:pastor@bethesdacarlton.org)

Office Contact Information

Phone: 218-384-4501

Email: [office@bethesdacarlton.org](mailto:office@bethesdacarlton.org)

Cathy Dale, Accompanist

Anna Bong, Custodian

Ronay Frank, Custodian

### **Current Members of Bethesda**

#### **Church Council**

Roxane Schmitz .....President

Lynn Beatty ..... Vice President

Diana Davis ..... Secretary

Jeannette Korpela .....Treasurer

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](mailto:bethesdalutherancouncil@gmail.com)

Next Council Meeting will be held

May 20th at 5:30 p.m

**Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Joint Worship Service at River's Edge  
at 10:30 with New Wine performing

**May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.**

**Graduation Dinner**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.**

**Graduation Sunday**

#### **Financial Update**

Year to date as of 03/28/2025

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	24880.00	26250.00	(1370.00)
Non-pledged income	8363.72	8612.49	(248.77)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>33243.72</b>	<b>34862.49</b>	<b>(1618.77)</b>
Salaries/Compensation	21614.78	26870.64	(5255.86)
General Office Expenses	3201.05	3363.99	(162.94)
Utilities	2814.06	2967.75	(153.69)
Other Expenses	115.83	839.99	(724.16)
Benevolence Expenses	248.80	262.50	(13.70)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	478.68	750.03	(271.35)
Social Ministry	90.00	84.99	5.01
Worship Expenses	0.00	232.50	(232.50)
CYFM Expenses	206.10	1242.48	(1036.38)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>28769.30</b>	<b>36614.87</b>	<b>(7845.57)</b>
<b>Net operating income</b>	4474.42	(1752.38)	6226.80

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.

I want to thank all of you ladies for  
thinking of me and to the lady that  
made the shawl. I love it!! The colors  
are perfect and it is so warm. I sit in  
my chair and wrap myself in it and fall  
asleep. Again, thank you so much

-Jan Dahl

**Save The Date:**  
**God's Work, Our Hands**

Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
THANK YOU for your donations and  
to those who helped assemble  
31 Baby kits for Lutheran World  
Relief.

During the months of June and July  
there will be joint worship services at  
Bethesda at 9:30 a.m. For the month of  
August joint services will be held at  
River's Edge at 9:30 a.m. There will  
be no services held at Bethesda in  
August.

**Member News**



**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.



Congratulations to our 2025  
Graduates:  
Kayla Radtke & Vance Moench.



Our hearts and prayers are with the  
family of John Ermatinger who passed  
away on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Phil Johnson who  
passed away on April 18<sup>th</sup>, Floyd  
Aubol who passed away April 24<sup>th</sup>  
and Oliver "Bud" Thorman, who  
passed away on April 21<sup>st</sup>. May God's  
love surround each of you and provide  
you with strength, peace and comfort  
in the days ahead.



**Congratulations & Blessings to our  
Confirmands** who participated in  
Affirmation of Baptism on April 27<sup>th</sup> at  
the 9 a.m. worship service. This year's  
confirmands are Nixon Mitchell,  
Jaiden Soukkala, CeCe Moench,  
Lauren Soukkala & Lucas Radtke.

**Collecting for a Cause**

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

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

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

**Social Ministry**

**Hygiene products for those in need:**

Shampoo, toothpaste/brush, soap, comb and personal care products

**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.

**\*Sewers Needed\***

Lutheran World Relief project  
Please consider hemming pre cut diaper squares, onesies, sleepers.

**Flannel sheets, pillow cases/material needed** to make diapers and receiving blankets, scent free bar soap (no antibacterial soap)

**Cloquet Salvation Army Food Shelf**

316 Carlton Ave. Cloquet, MN  
218-879-1693

**Hours:**

Monday 4-6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Please consider donating nonperishable food items and paper products. Our Food Shelf collection box is located near the basement steps.

Thank you!

**Thank you**

Thank you to everybody who cooked or provided meals for the mid-week Lenten services.

**CHURCH WOMEN'S RETREAT**

2026

Jan. 22-26

Luther Point Bible Camp  
Grantsburg, WI

**WELCA QUILTS/BABY BLANKETS**

WELCA will be using the Astrid Culliton memorial fund to purchase blankets for newly baptized members of Bethesda, Lori Bunge has ordered them, and Wendy Mitchell will handle the distribution. We will also offer embroidered blankets to graduates, shut-ins, and folks at care facilities or in need. Linda Newlon and Debby Johnson will be handling this program—so if you think of anyone, let them know, and we will do our best to get a blanket to them.

On Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> we delivered 75 Easter bags and cards to IFCC residents. I would like to thank Joel, Annabelle, Lauren and Jackson Soukkala, Sharon Bragge, Linda Newlon, Fay Lynn Leseman, Ailie and JoAnn Gustafson. It is such a blessed feeling to see the faces of the residents when we hand them their Easter goodies and cards. I am glad we can make a difference in their lives during the Easter Season.





## Beacon Information CYFED – May 2025

The J.A.M/message schedule remains the same. J.A.M. the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month and the message on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's.

Faith Partners have only 2 weeks left then we go into Holy week.

The Friday Bible Study is continuing at 11:00 AM in the gathering space. All are welcome to join!

The last Breaking Bread Together for the winter months will be on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. We will discuss if and when we will have again in the fall. More to follow!

The last Lutheran Course was on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:45 AM. Thank you Ginny Kortie-Castle and Diana Davis for teaching the class. Diana Davis will start a new bible study class in May. The topic will be

“1 & 2 Thessalonians Caught Up”.

The class starts on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. All you need to do is bring your bible, (any translation) and be ready to discuss, take notes, and enjoy God's word together. To help with food/snack cost, a one time \$20 is appreciated. Please sign up with Diana prior to April 27<sup>th</sup>

Wendy discussed the new program Frolic “Little Steps, Big Faith.” This program is designed for birth to 3 years old. She will continue to order the newsletter to share with the families. The Frolic “Little Steps, Big Faith,” is a faith exploration connection with little moments of their developments. We look forward to meeting the needs of our littlest congregation members.

The Multi-Parish Synod Ministry night was Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6-7:30 pm. The guest speaker was Reverend Taryn Montgomery from the Synod. The event was at Bethesda Lutheran Church with meal and worship.

The Easter Vigil was on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. We had 12 families signed up to have Easter eggs filled with candy, hid for them in their yards, to find on Easter morning.

Also, we will had food, crafts, palms to make crosses and a campfire outside to roast marshmallows.

CYFED sent out 14 Easter cards to our youth pre-k through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

We currently have 3 kids going to camp.

Agape meal was held on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00. Confirmation will be held on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30. We will have 5 kids being confirmed at Bethesda and one at River's Edge. The graduation dinner will be held on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup>. The graduation ceremony will be on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. If you know of someone who is graduating in 2025, please contact Linda Newlon.

The next CYFED meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025, AT 5:30 PM IN THE GATHERING SPACE.**

All are welcome to join us. We are always looking for ideas to get our youth involved. Thank you from the CYFED Committee Pastor Seth, Wendy Mitchell, Linda Newlon, Diana Davis, and JoAnn Gustafson. If you have questions/concerns/ideas please feel free to contact a committee member.



Happy Mother's Day May 11<sup>th</sup> to all mothers and those who fill mothering roles!



We take time to remember & pray for many loved ones during Memorial Day weekend, May 24<sup>th</sup>, including our service men and women and those families who are in grief.

Jason Couch from Nashville, TN and his family's singing group are offering to come play a concert at Bethesda on the evening of May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. They'd like to play for about an hour. If we do invite them to come, it would be appropriate to offer them a moderate "love gift" from the church of around \$100, and perhaps pass the hat to allow people to support their travel expenses.



### **MAY 2025 SCHEDULE FOR J.A.M./ MESSAGE**

\*\*\*May 4<sup>th</sup> – JOINT SERVICE AT RIVER'S EDGE 10:30 –NEW WINE

\*\*\*May 11<sup>th</sup> – message with Pastor Seth

\*\*\*May 18<sup>th</sup> - J.A.M. – Jesus and Me

\*\*\*May 25<sup>th</sup> – NO MESSAGE – PASTOR GONE



### **May Coffee Serving Schedule**

**5/4** Joint Service at River's Edge

**5/11** Ginny's Group

**5/18** Cary's Group

**5/25** Pat's Group



### **Greeters/Ushers**

5/4 Joint Service at River's Edge  
5/11 Linda Newlon  
5/18 Diana Davis  
5/25 Randy Schmitz

### **Lector**

5/4 Joint Service at River's Edge  
5/11 Linda Newlon  
5/18 Diana Davis  
5/25 Randy Schmitz

### **Acolyte**

5/4 Joint Service at River's Edge  
5/11 Ailie  
5/18 Mason  
5/25 Anna

### **Communion Assistants**

5/4 Joint Service at River's Edge  
5/11 Cheryl Ankrum & Lynn Beatty  
5/18 Jen & Jason Goad  
5/25 JoAnn Gustafson & Anna

### **Counters**

5/4 Joint Service at River's Edge  
5/11 Bev Mangan & Gladys Sievert  
5/18 Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis  
5/25 Lori Bunge & Linda Newlon



### **June Coffee Serving Schedule**

6/1 Linda's Group  
6/8 Deb's Group

6/15 Renae's Group  
6/22 Lori's Group  
6/29 Jeannette's Group

### **Greeters/Ushers**

6/1 JoAnn & Ailie  
6/8 Craig & Roxane Schmitz  
6/15 Mary Saarela & Linda Newlon  
6/22 Pat Durkee & Debby Johnson  
6/29 Terry & Sue Coady

### **Lector**

6/1 Cheryl Ankrum  
6/8 Roxane Schmitz  
6/15 Ginny Korte-Castle  
6/22 Wendy Mitchell  
6/29 Randy Schmitz

### **Acolyte**

6/1 Anna  
6/8 Ailie  
6/15 Mason  
6/22 Anna  
6/29 Mason

### **Communion Assistants**

6/1 Chris & Wendy Mitchell  
6/8 Anna & JoAnn  
6/15 Jen & Jason Goad  
6/22 Lynn Beatty & Sharon Bragge  
6/29 Anna & JoAnn

### **Counters**

6/1 Gene Bryant & JoAnn  
6/8 Diana Davis & Lynn Beatty  
6/15 Mary Saarela & Linda Newlon  
6/22 Chris Mitchell & Bev Mangan  
6/29 Gladys Sievert & Lori Bunge



# HEART TO HEART

*A Gathering of Women, Young & Old... Meeting in Friendship  
& Fellowship in Christ*

EVENT WILL BE HELD: SATURDAY MAY 17, 2025 FROM 9:30—11:30AM  
(REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:15AM)  
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—612 12<sup>TH</sup> ST, CLOQUET, MN

## INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER:

Alison Suominen, Mental Health Therapist.  
Alison will share her message "Hope Redeemed."

## OUTREACH SPEAKER:

Sheri Olson, President of Community of Hope.  
Sheri will be speaking about the Community of Hope  
2:16--a Christian outreach program in the area  
offering needed services to the homeless.

MUSIC: Gail and Kevin Hamre

**Pre-register by:**  
**Wednesday, May 14th**

**Please contact:**  
Annette Mills  
Annettief75@msn.com  
218-590-4873  
(call/leave message or text)

HEART TO HEART is a non-denominational friendship ministry in our area bringing women of all ages together for a time of coffee, fellowship and fun. The goal is to offer women opportunities to impact their communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed.

A \$3 donation for this event is appreciated very much.  
We look forward to seeing you.



# May 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <b>5:30pm</b> “Caught Up” Bible Study	2 11a Bible Study	3 <b>8am</b> Bridal Shower- Beatty Family
4 <b>8:30am</b> No Service @ Bethesda <b>10:30am</b> New Wine @ River’s Edge	5	6 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>5:30pm</b> CYF&Ed. Meeting <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	7 <b>6pm</b> Growing in Faith 3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Class	8 <b>1pm</b> Jam Group <b>5:30pm</b> “Caught Up” Bible Study	9 11a Bible Study	10
11 Mother’s Day <b>8:30am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> River’s Edge Service	12	13 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	14 <b>6pm</b> Growing in Faith 3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Class	15 <b>5:30pm</b> Ladies of Kaleva Mtg. “Caught Up” Bible Study <b>7pm</b> Concert: Ernie Couch & Revival	16 11a Bible Study	17 <b>6pm</b> Graduation Dinner
18 <b>8:30am</b> Worship/Graduation <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> River’s Edge Service <b>2pm</b> Line Family Funeral <b>2:30pm</b> Interfaith Service	19	20 <b>9am</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>4:30pm</b> Worship Committee Mtg. <b>5:30pm</b> Council Mtg. <b>6pm</b> Serenity Seekers	21	22 <b>Beacon Deadline</b> <b>1pm</b> Jam Group <b>5:30pm</b> “Caught Up” Bible Study	23 11a Bible Study	24
25 <b>8:30am</b> Worship <b>9:45am</b> Coffee/ Fellowship <b>10:30am</b> River’s Edge Service	26 Memorial Day	27 <b>9a</b> Making Mats for the Homeless <b>6p</b> Serenity Seekers	28	29 <b>5:30pm</b> “Caught Up” Bible Study	30 11a Bible Study	31

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

Sunday Worship  
**8:30am**  
*In House  
And Online*  
*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  
@office@bethesdacarlton.org*

