

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish
PO Box 426
Bristol, SD 57219



Pastor Chris Strohm

Bristol Church Office 605-492-3123
Parish Email bethesdabutler@nvc.net

Pastor's Cell 605-218-0852

Parish Website www.bethesdabutler.com

New Year's Message

FROM THE PASTOR

Happy New Year Everyone,

During WWII the army had a recruiting campaign poster featuring Uncle Sam pointing his finger and saying, "I Want YOU for the U.S. Army," most of us have only seen these posters in movies or maybe a museum. I am stealing that idea and would like you to picture that poster with Jesus instead of Uncle Sam and he is saying, "I want YOU for Bethesda and Butler Lutheran Churches. Think about it for a moment...we need you to step up as a leader of your church. This is the time of year when we invite you to take part in the leadership of the church by being a member of the council, leading Sunday School, volunteering to help with Sunday worship by ushering, reading, setting up for communion, caring for the building and grounds, and other ways.

Believe it or not, there is more to Bethesda and Butler than just what you see on Sunday morning! Both churches open their doors to the community for fellowship, for coffee, quilt making. On Wednesdays at Bethesda learning is going on through Bible Study, Confirmation, and Wednesday School. Children are being fed a meal as they learn. Vacation Bible School is held in our building two out of every three years. And I haven't even listed anything that WELCA does. Our buildings are used in many ways to benefit and be a force for good in our communities.



All of these things are planned and prepared by people who are deeply committed to our becoming who it is God is calling us to be. The ministry and mission of our church take place because of the spiritual *and financial* gifts our members and friends choose to offer. These are the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does cost real money to provide these spiritual things!

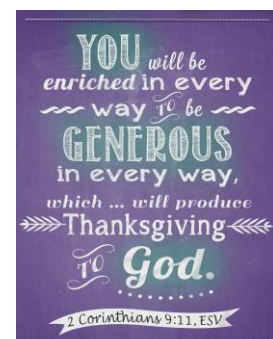
The decision to give a gift is a choice, but as a follower of Jesus, it really isn't an option! Based on what we have received, we are encouraged to give something – out of thanksgiving for what God has done, and as a sign of faithfulness and commitment to be a part of the good things that God is continuing to do in our world. We have the gift of Jesus and we are invited to respond to what God has given us with generosity of our own. There is joy to be found in practicing generosity and it begins with a simple step of a commitment to contribute.

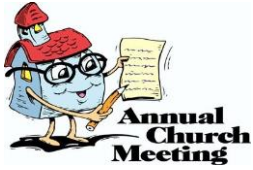


My prayer is that you will answer the call of Jesus to support Bethesda and Butler churches through using your times and talents and your financial offering. The gifts we bring make good things happen. Thank you for being a part of it.

May the peace of the Lord be with you,

Pastor Chris





Annual Church Meeting

Please have your Butler Annual Report information to the office by January 13th

Butler's Annual Meeting will be January 19th following worship

Please have your Bethesda Annual Report information to the office by January 20th

Bethesda's Annual Meeting will be January 26th following worship



Special Birthday wishes to Eleanore Whitmyre who turns 103 on January 11th
Birthday greetings may be sent to:
Eleanore Whitmyre
PO Box 337
Bristol, SD 57219

Bethesda News



Bethesda Newsletter Postage has been sponsored anonymously for January.

THRIVENT ACTION



team projects

If you have been approved for a Thrivent Action Team Project, please let the church office know. We would like to share the good news with the congregation. Each Thrivent member is eligible to complete 2 projects per year.

Bethesda Butler Parish Secretary Position

Starting Jan. 1st approximately 10 hours/week. Can be done all at the church or part at home. Complete list of duties available in the office.

Contact Kyle at 605-590-1107 or email bethesdabutler@nvc.net



Our Prayers are with the Family of Richard Espeland who passed away December 7th



January 5

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

January 12

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 19

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1,4-9
1 Corinth. 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23



Council Members

Council Members Needed

At the Annual Meetings in January, we will hold elections for a few council positions. You may be getting a call from the nominating committee soon – please be praying and thinking about volunteering to fill one of these positions.



AT THIS TIME OF LOSS



Our Prayers are with the Family of Jason Nolte who passed away December 15th



Bethesda WELCA

Bethesda held their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 11, 2019. A delicious lunch was served to members and guests at noon. There were 24 in attendance.

Bonnie Dolney welcomed guests and the table prayer was sung before enjoying an array of food and desserts.

A point game was played by the audience and Linda Anderson was the winner. Door prize winners were Carol Raap and Sharon Busch.

The program, "*The Pilgrimage of Adoration*", was given by the officers. This was narration and Christmas carols.

Secretary, Alice Jean Peterson



Butler WELCA

The Butler WELCA met at the church on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 9 am with 7 members present. Pres. Kathy Buhler called the business meeting to order. Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurers report: November Offering - \$60.00, General Fund – \$948.15, Altar Fund - \$206.04. Mission Action Report:

Discussed the quilting project.

Old Business: We need to turn in all raffle tickets for the quilt. We will draw for the winner at the Advent Sing in Butler on December 14 at the church. We discussed the Advent Sing. Kathy Buhler will have the welcome. The programs are ready.

We have only one lesson left in our Bible Study of "Angels". We decided to get the Bible Study on "Johns Letters" for the next study. Kathy Nolte will check on the books and will order 9 books.

We read our WELCA Purpose Statement. The Bible Study was "*Guarded by Angels*" from Acts 12: 1-17. Carol had the Offering Meditation.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 4, 2020 at the church. Lorraine will have the Offering Meditation. We closed with praying The Lord's Prayer.

Carol Flattum, Secretary

JANUARY BETHESDA WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Reader	Organist	Altar Guild	Deacon	Worship Helper
1/05	At Butler	-----	-----	Karin B.	Kris H.	-----
1/12		Gail	Gail			Emma B.
1/19	At Butler	-----	-----			-----
1/26		Kathryn	Kathryn			Madison P.

JANUARY BUTLER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Ushers	Reader	Worship Helper
1/05	Travis A.	Kellen A.	
1/12	At Bethesda	-----	-----
1/19	Travis A.	Tammie H.	Karter S.
1/26	At Bethesda	-----	-----

Bethesda Financial Report

Needed weekly to meet the budget: \$1,379.77

DATE	RECEIPTS	
11/17	\$275.00	short \$1,104.77
11/24	\$1,646.05	long \$266.28
12/01	\$0.00	short \$1,379.77
12/08	\$2,904.58	long \$1,524.81
12/15	\$1,500.00	long \$120.23

As of December 15, 2019

Total 2019 yearly receipts: \$55,841.55

Total 2019 yearly disbursements: \$66,365.22

Short for the year to date \$11,090.09

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020

The Bethesda Council has decided to use weekly offering envelopes in 2020 as a way to remind us all to give regularly. The expenses of the church continue if we are in church or not.

Please pick up your box of offering envelopes in the church narthex. All offerings, cash or check, should be placed in the envelope.












January 2	Michael Herr
January 2	Brandon Whitmyre
January 3	Kaleb Antonsen
January 3	Kellen Antonsen
January 4	Marshall Peckham
January 4	Nola Roitsch
January 5	Jake Zimmerman
January 5	Lola Counts
January 7	Travis Antonsen
January 8	Kathy Nolte
January 8	Brent Zimmerman
January 10	Gwen Bates
January 10	David Clark
January 11	Eleanore Whitmyre
January 12	Leroy Johnson
January 14	Ian Eickhoff
January 18	Harold Orr
January 20	Turner Wickre
January 22	Glenn Flattum
January 27	Desiree Hansmeier
January 28	Halston Witt
January 29	Kay Espeland
January 30	Madison Peckham

We apologize if we missed your birthday. Please let us know and we will include it on our list for next year. Birthday blessings to you!



JANUARY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>JANUARY</p>			No Office Hours 1 	2	3	4 9am Butler WELCA
2nd Sunday of Christmas (white) 5 9am Communion Worship at Butler	6 	7	Pastor's Office Day 8 9am Bible Study at Bethesda 4:30 Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45 Wednesday School 6:30 Bethesda Council	9 2pm Pastor Chris at Sun Dial	10	11 
Baptism of our Lord (white) 12 9am Communion Worship at Bethesda	13 	14	Pastor's Office Day 15 9am Bible Study at Bethesda 4:30 Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45 Wednesday School	16	17 	18
2nd Sunday after Epiphany (green) 19 9am Worship at Butler Butler Annual Meeting following worship February Newsletter Items Due	20 	21 	Pastor's Office Day 22 9am Bible Study at Bethesda 4:30 Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45 Wednesday School	23  St. Dysmas Trip	24	25
3rd Sunday after Epiphany (green) 26 9am Worship at Bethesda with Runner's Club Noisy Can Offering Bethesda Annual Meeting following Worship	27 	28	Pastor's Office Day 29 9am Bible Study at Bethesda 4:30 Confirmation 5:30 Meal 5:45 Wednesday School	30	31	