

Bethesda Butler Lutheran Parish  
PO Box 426  
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PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219



## Wednesday School News

### March Meal Servers

- 6 – Paul & Christina Siemonsma
- 13 – John & Jaclyn Horter
- 20 – Corey & Teresa Lone
- 27 – HOLY WEEK – No Class
- April 3 – Dave & Christa Orr

We will excuse Wednesday School classes about 6:20 during Lent due to 6:30 church services. This will give everyone time to get upstairs and settled for the service.

Here are some dates to keep in mind:

**March 24** – Wednesday School sings for Palm Sunday at Butler

**March 27** – Holy Week - No Wednesday School or Confirmation

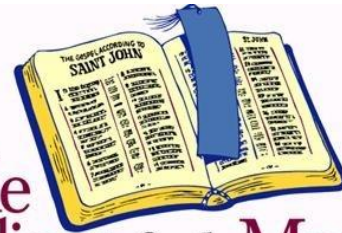
**April 28** – Wednesday School sings at Bethesda for Confirmation Sunday

**May 8<sup>th</sup>** – Board of Education serves supper and last day of Wednesday School and Confirmation

**May 12<sup>th</sup>** – Awards Sunday with children singing at Bethesda

Sincerely,  
 Board of Education  
 Robin Anderson 605-380-8899  
 Katy Wickre 605-265-0401

Wednesday School needs 8 oz. size water bottles for the meals. Donations can be left in the kitchen at Bethesda. Thank you!



## Bible Readings *for the Month*

<b><u>March 3</u></b> Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 I Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22	<b><u>March 10</u></b> Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3,17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21
<b><u>March 17</u></b> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	<b><u>Palm Sunday</u></b> Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1-15:47
<b><u>Maundy Thursday</u></b> Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 116:1-2,12-19 I Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35	<b><u>Good Friday</u></b> Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42
<b><u>Easter Sunday</u></b> Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 I Corinthians 15:1-11 Mark 16:1-8	

Kristi will be traveling to Ireland March 14-21. If weather becomes an issue, an early departure may be needed to make the international flight. Diane Hoines is the emergency contact. She can be reached at:

(h) 605-493-6618

(c) 605-380-2854

**Thank you to Venona Ash for sponsoring newsletter postage this month!**

Our voice from the past for this month is June Swanson. It was always a treat to hear June read or talk in her crisp, beautifully articulated way.

## MARCH

(by June Swanson)

### REMEMBER CRACKER JACKS?

Read Psalm

119: 97-104

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Psalm 19:10

I don't know whether I'm going through a second childhood or what, but lately I've been craving a box of Cracker Jacks. Do you know what I'm talking about — the candy covered popcorn and peanuts in a box with young Sailor Jack on the label? I remember the slogan: "The more you eat, the more you want!"

Cracker Jacks are great, but there is something far better. David said it is "sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb" (Psalm 19:10). And like the candied popcorn, "the more you eat, the more you want." The more you read the Bible, the more you will desire to read it. It is an appetite that grows as it feeds and feeds as it grows.

Bible study is habit-forming; like your teatime or coffee break.

One of the first things I do when I rise in the morning is put the kettle

on. It's a habit, for I want my coffee- And then with my coffee I sit down with the Book- Reaching for the Bible the first thing in the morning can become a real habit — and a good one. You wouldn't think of going to work without breakfast, but are you going into the day without your spiritual food?

Get the early morning Bible-reading habit, and keep it up until you can't break it. Reach for the Book!

Then let me love my Bible more  
And take a fresh delight  
By day to read these wonders o'er  
And meditate by night.

Amen. ↗

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am writing this after coming off a difficult week, due to the removal of a wisdom tooth and another tooth that the wisdom tooth's nerves had wrapped around. I was unprepared for how this knocked me down. Halsten was visiting, so my endorphins were high, but Monday night he asked, "Why do your eyes look like that, Kiki?" Even he could see the effect on me. This is not a tale of woe; it is a testimony to the numerous gifts God sends us every day to lift us up. (This will subsequently be referred to as GLUP – God Lifts Up.)

I was granted a wonderful sleep Monday night. (GLUP) Tuesday came and I slowly went about my work at home, having no appetite and low energy. The soreness in my jaw began to ease. (GLUP) Wednesday was my hair appointment with a cup-filling chat, as always, with my hairdresser. (GLUP) Then came church work and Wednesday School and Confirmation. We had a fun time making final plans for Lenten skits and props. (GLUP) My Confirmation students continually amaze me with their insight and questions. (GLUP) However, I went home exhausted once again. *Should having two teeth pulled really have this much of an effect on me?*

Thursday morning the birds were out in full force at my feeders. (GLUP) Halsten and I watched as Mr. Woodpecker, the bully, would chase the others away. Halsten took such delight in watching the birds fly to and fro between the bushes in front of the house and the feeders. (GLUP) We learned about penguins through many activities throughout the day, and Halsten marveled at their unique characteristics. (GLUP) Soon it was time for night class, and I am still not feeling up to par, so I approached it with a bit of a sense of dread. However, this soon turned to relief as the instructor gave us grace from the get-go. (GLUP) I was familiar with our instructor, and she soon turned the topic of stewardship into something

quite interesting. (GLUP) Friday was eight hours of scheduled class on Zoom, a daunting task when I am at my best. With a variety of learning techniques, the day went quicker than I expected. (GLUP) The instructor, gauging everyone's saturation and energy levels, released us early to do coursework. (GLUP) I took this extra time to prepare for bed early as Faith Fest was in Sioux Falls all day Saturday.

Saturday morning dawned calm as can be with smooth-sailing roads. (GLUP) Augie students eagerly greeted us upon arrival. We started the day with worship and stations. (GLUP) We ate lunch at the dining hall and then left for our service project site. On the way to the car, Tucker asked if we could come again next year – only two hours in, I took this as a good sign! (GLUP) Our work at Faith Temple Food Giveaway was a cup-filling experience for all of us. Remi and Tucker packed food assembly line style, and I aided the tapers in securing the bags closed. Our group of 40 packed 1,000 bags of food in a little under 2 hours! (GLUP) Upon leaving, Tucker explained that along with his Christmas money from his grandma, he received \$50 to give away, and he had just found his cause. (GLUP) Back to campus and rotating activities, supper, and our last activity, a concert. (GLUP) We were all inspired yet tired by this time as witnessed by our slow walk to my vehicle. We stopped for gas and snacks, and I bought a cup of caffeine in case my passengers dozed off on the way home. And then Remi asked if we could jam to some tunes on the way home. (GLUP) And it just so happens Tucker can name any song after hearing the first few notes. (GLUP)

We made our way home under a beautiful sky on an unusually mild February night. (GLUP) We arrived safely home, longing and thankful for the gift of our awaiting beds. (GLUP). The cherry on top of this tough week was worship and coffee at Butler the next morning. Peace~ Kristi

Growing Our Faith at Faith Fest

Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you.

**I Samuel 10 :7**

This was our theme verse for the day, and participants were organized according to various signs; we were in the stop sign group. Opening worship consisted of several stations.

**\*Newspaper prayers** – Students were to locate an area article that resonated with them and ask God to be present with us in times of need and celebration. This has us calling on God to listen and be among the community affected.

**\*Confessing fears** – God asks us to trust in Him, offering up our fears, worries, and anxieties. God promises to be with us whenever we are worried, scared, or stressed. Students were encouraged to write a fear on a poster.

**\*Ask a question** – What questions do you have about God? What questions do you want to ask God? Write your questions on a Post-it note.

**\*Map prayers** – Conflicts and celebrations are occurring all over the world. As siblings to all people, we ask God to care for those who live far away from us. Think of other states and countries in need of prayer.

**\*Called to follow** – God calls us to follow him as we are and with whatever unique talents, abilities, and personalities we possess. Think of your defining features and qualities and record them on a note for the wall. Reflect on what makes each and every one of us special. Know that you are worthy no matter what you bring to the table.

**\*Listening to God** – God comes into our lives in mysterious ways and at mysterious times. Where do you see God in your life? How do you see God in your friends, family, and classmates? Draw or write about places you have felt God’s presence.

**\*Moving forward with Christ** – God wants us to be rooted in His love and strengthened by the Holy Spirit inside and out. How do you see God fitting into your future goals? What goals do you think God has for you?

**Our service project took place at Faith Temple Food Giveaway.** Their building is located on the north side of the fair grounds. Information about this organization:

\*Started in 2009 by Josh Hayes – acquired a permanent building in 2013.

\*The most bags distributed on a single Friday is 1,700. People come from a 60-mile radius to pick up food.

\*It takes approximately \$5,000 and 100 volunteers every Friday. They only take 2 Fridays off a year.

\*They have a partnership with DoorDash, which helps them deliver to people in the food deserts of Sioux Falls. DoorDash made 10,000 deliveries for them last year.

\*On the average, 3 to 4 people are served from each bag distributed.

\*FTFG works with 911 and 211 services to get food to those in need 24/7.

If you would like to donate, please send to:

100 North Louise Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107

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Confirmants returned to campus for four more break-out sessions, including Bible study and the opportunity to ask Augie students about their faith and education.

Jason Freeman, speaker at one of the sessions, posed this question to everyone, *How might the things you’re struggling with be part of the miracle that is you?* Jason suffered oxygen deprivation when he was born, which resulted in a significant speech impediment. He admitted that at first he asked, *Why me? Why would God do this to me?* With supportive parents telling him he was the best, he turned that question into, *Why not me? And what can I do with this?* Jason decided to concentrate on the things he could do. He now travels the country speaking, and he is an author and podcaster. This was an inspiring session!

We ended our day with a concert by *Tangled Blue* in the chapel. These musicians had us up on our feet with hands in the air dancing to the glory of God.

## **2024 Bethesda and Butler Church Council Members**

	<b>Bethesda</b>	<b>Butler</b>
<b>President</b>	Dennis Huwe	Julie Flattum
<b>Vice President</b>		Travis Antonsen
<b>Secretary</b>	Vickie Zimmerman	Pat Sass
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jill Hansmeier	Tamra Herr
<b>Deacons</b>	John Horter Karin Bartell Jon Anderson	Steve Witt Dennis Buhler
<b>Trustees</b>	Darron Iverson Gene Williamson Derek Wickre	Wes Nolte Michael Herr Paul Halvorsen
<b>Bethesda Home Board</b>	Brent Zimmerman	Linda Witt Dennis & Kathy Buhler – annual meeting delegates
<b>Head Usher</b>	Glenda Bakken	Dennis Buhler
<b>Nominating Committee</b>	Kay Espeland Kris Hubsch Carol Raap	Paul Halvorsen Steve Witt Carol Flattum
<b>Parish Council</b>	Dennis Huwe Jill Hansmeier Vickie Zimmerman	Kathy Buhler Julie Flattum Tamra Herr
<b>Board of Education</b>	Robin Anderson Katy Wickre	
<b>Special Funds</b>	Carol Raap	
<b>Funeral Usher</b>	Glenda Bakken	
<b>Endowment Funds Comm.</b>	Mark Anderson Janet Lardy Kathryn Bury	
<b>Auditor</b>	Kathryn Bury	



**Jonah Skit Series**

**Weekly Lenten Services at Bethesda at 6:30**

	<b>Worship Assistants</b>
2/21	Marshall and Colt
2/28	Marshall and Jaxon
3/6	Dane and Lloyd
3/13	Leroy and Colt
3/20	Tucker and Remi

**Maunday Thursday Service at Butler at 6:30**

**Good Friday Service at Bethesda at 6:30**

**Easter Worship at Butler at 8:30**

**Easter Worship at Bethesda at 10:00**

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**SAVE THE DATE**

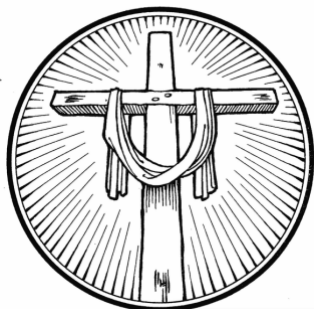
**WELCA 2024 Spring Gathering**

**Saturday, April 20th**

**Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer**

**in Watertown**

**More information will follow.**



**40 Days of Giving: Local Hunger**

**Butler's Lenten Offerings**

- Webster PACH
- Groton BAGS
- Day County Food Pantry



**Bethesda's Lenten Offerings**

- Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center Kids' Time

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**IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT,  
'CAMP' YOUR HANDS**

Now is the time to be thinking about summer camp! Check out all the possibilities at [losd.org](http://losd.org). There are opportunities for grades 3-12.

Early bird registration takes \$150 off camp cost! The church will pay half the cost, and scholarships are available, which Kristi will help you complete. Cost should not deter you from going to camp!





**Daylight Savings Time  
begins March 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Spring ahead one hour!**

**Children's offering for the months of  
January – June will go to  
Ronald McDonald House.**



If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily, The Blossom Shoppe will have 6-inch lilies for \$22. You will be responsible for picking up and delivering your lily to the church of your choice.

Please let Kristi know if you purchase a lily or other flowering plant in memory or honor of someone special to be displayed at our Easter services. Easter bulletins will be printed Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Please consider sharing your musical talent  
with us at our Easter Sunday services!**



**May 31 - June 1, 2024  
Our Savior's Lutheran  
Sioux Falls**

Delegates are needed to represent our congregations. If you are interested in being a delegate, contact your council president or Kristi.

## **CONFIRMATION LENTEN SCHEDULE**

March 6 – All students come off the bus to practice our skit for the Lenten service.

March 13 – Tucker, Leroy, Remi, Colt

March 20 – Remi, Tucker, Dane, Colt

\*Students not involved in the skit, do not have to come to class that week. However, everyone is welcome to come and eat, and there are always ways you can help at Wednesday School or around the church.

March 27 – Holy Week – no class

### **Looking ahead:**

April 3 – Spring Theological Conference in Brookings – no class

April 10 – Class resumes for all

April 24 – Students being confirmed must go over their final copy of faith statement with Kristi.

April 28- Confirmation Sunday for Chezney, Colt, Jaxon, and Lloyd.

May 1 – Tucker, Marshall, Remi, Kolton, Leroy and Dane have class.

May 8 – Last class - activities with all Wednesday School kids.





# March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Butler WELCA 9 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent <span style="float: right;"><b>3</b></span>  <b>9 am</b> Communion Worship at Bethesda w/Holy Baptism  <b>2 pm</b> Conference Assembly at St. John's in Webster	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 2-5 Office Hours <b>1:30</b> Bethesda WELCA <b>5:10– 6:20</b> Meal, Wed. school, & Confirmation <b>6:30</b> Lenten Service at Bethesda	<b>7</b>  10-2 Office Hours  Sun Dial Service 2:00	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent <span style="float: right;"><b>10</b></span>  <b>9 am</b> Worship at Butler  <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Office Hours 10-4	<b>13</b>  <b>5:10– 6:20</b> Meal, Wed. school, & Confirmation <b>6:30</b> Lenten Service at Bethesda *Bethesda Council following <b>Kristi to Ireland</b> →	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent <span style="float: right;"><b>17</b></span>  <b>9 am</b> Worship at Bethesda with Diane Hoines  ←	<b>18</b>  	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>5:10 – 6:20</b> Meal, Wed. school, & Confirmation <b>6:30</b> Lenten Service at Bethesda	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  April newsletter items due	<b>23</b>
<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> at Butler <b>24</b> Children sing – 9:00  <b>EASTER</b> (Communion) <b>31</b> <b>8:30 – BUTLER</b> <b>10:00 - BETHESDA</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  	<b>27</b>  <b>10-4</b> Office Hours No Wednesday School or Confirmation	<b>28</b>  <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Butler 6:30 Communion	<b>29</b>  <b>Good Friday</b> Bethesda 6:30	<b>30</b>  <b>Last day to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars</b>

### Bethesda March Worship Assistants

	Usher	Reader	Organist
<b>3/3</b>	Pam	Carol	Gail
<b>3/10</b>	At Butler		
<b>3/17</b>	Gayle	Dane	Kathryn
<b>3/24</b>	At Butler		
<b>3/31</b>	Kyle	Remi	Gail
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Kathryn Bury & Janet Lardy			
<b>Deacon:</b> Karin Bartell			

### Butler March Worship Assistants

	Usher	Reader
<b>3/3</b>	At Bethesda	
<b>3/10</b>	Moody Family	Macey & Mya
<b>3/17</b>	At Bethesda	
<b>3/24</b>	Moody Family	Karter
<b>3/28</b>	Moody Family	First Comm. Kids
<b>3/31</b>	Moody Family	Kolton



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

### Don't forget to direct ThriventChoice Dollars® - March 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2024**, to direct any remaining 2023 Choice Dollars. Help support Bethesda or Butler Lutheran Church.

Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

#### Ways to Give to Bethesda Lutheran Church

At the church service  
mail to PO Box 426 Bristol, SD 57219  
mail to the church treasurer  
Tithe.ly app

#### Ways to Give to Butler Lutheran Church

At the church service  
mail to the church treasurer



March 2	Vicki Zimmerman
March 4	Rebecca Hubsch
March 6	Devon Huwe
March 14	Gavin Witt
March 15	Darrick Lone
March 15	Corey Lone
March 16	Emma Bahr
March 19	Jamie Anderson
March 19	John Horter
March 21	Lydia Johnson
March 22	Gail Huwe
March 22	Wyatt Lone
March 22	James R. McKane III
March 28	Kristi Bonn
March 30	Mark Anderson
March 30	Jon Anderson
March 30	Justin McKane
March 31	Mason 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!

